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1	MARY E. ALEXANDER, ESQ. (SBN: 1041	73)
2	Mary Alexander & Associates, P.C. 44 Montgomery Street, Suite 1303	
3	San Francisco, California 94104	
4	Telephone: (415) 433-4440 Facsimile: (415) 433-5440	
	Email: malexander@maryalexanderlaw.com	
5	ELIZABETH J. CABRASER (SBN: 083151)	
6	Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP	
7	275 Battery Street, 29th Floor San Francisco, CA 94111-3339	
8	Telephone: (415) 956-1000	
9	Facsimile: (415) 956-1008	
10	Email: ecabraser@lchb.com	
	GRETCHEN NELSON (SBN: 112566) Nelson & Fraenkel LLP	
11	601 So. Figueroa Street, Suite 2050	
12	Los Angeles, CA 90017	
13	Telephone: (213) 622-6469	
14	Facsimile: (213) 622-6019 Email: gnelson@nflawfirm.com	
15	Attorneys for Plaintiffs	
16	[Additional counsel on signature page]	
17	UNITED STATES DIS CENTRAL DISTRICT (
18	CENTRAL DISTRICT (CYNTHIA LYNN FORD; JAMES DAVID	Case No.: 2:20-CV-06226
	ARTHUR FORD; CAROLE KEALY; KELLY SANDOVAL; RUBEN	Cuse 110 2.20 CV 00220
19	SANDOVAL; STEPHEN COLLINS;	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT
20	SARAH DAVIES; KURT EMERALD; TRACY EMERALD; LARRY A. FISHER;	FOR DAMAGES
21	TRACY EMERALD; LARRY A. FISHER; RITA FISHER; DAVID GONSALVES; MARY ANN GONSALVES; TRACIE	1. NEGLIGENCE
22	LING; BRIAN LOSIE; PEGGY LOSIE; JOHN MILLER; RENATE MILLER;	2. GROSS NEGLIGENCE
23	I KENNETH PRAGEMARIE RIVERA	3. NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS
24	PAUL RIVERA; JOHN SHATERIAN; and JUDITH SHATERIAN, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,	4. INTENTIONAL INFLICTION
25	Plaintiffs,	OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS
	VS.	DEMAND FOR HIDY TRIAL
26	CARNIVAL CORPORATION;	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
27	CARNIVAL PLC and PRINCESS CRUISE	
28	LINES LTD., Defendente	
	Defendants.	
		CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

1

COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

2 Individual and representative Plaintiffs CYNTHIA LYNN FORD; JAMES 3 DAVID ARTHUR FORD; CAROLE KEALY; KELLY SANDOVAL; and 4 RUBEN SANDOVAL bring this action for themselves and on behalf of all persons 5 similarly situated, including Individual Plaintiffs STEPHEN COLLINS; SARAH 6 DAVIES; KURT EMERALD; TRACY EMERALD; LARRY A. FISHER; RITA 7 FISHER; DAVID GONSALVES; MARY ANN GONSALVES; TRACIE LING; 8 BRIAN LOSIE; PEGGY LOSIE; JOHN MILLER; RENATE MILLER; KENNETH PRAG; MARIE RIVERA; PAUL RIVERA; JOHN SHATERIAN; and 9 10 JUDITH SHATERIAN, and the more than 2000 other passengers who sailed on the 11 roundtrip Motor Vessel ("M/V") GRAND PRINCESS cruise from San Francisco, 12 California on February 11, 2020, to Mexico, against Defendants, PRINCESS 13 CRUISE LINES LTD. ("PRINCESS"), its parent companies CARNIVAL CORPORATION & CARNIVAL PLC (collectively, "CARNIVAL") and allege: 14 15 **THE PARTIES** 1. 16 Individual and representative Plaintiff Cynthia Lynn Ford is *sui juris*, a 17 resident of Placer County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand 18 Princess cruise from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 19 2. Individual and representative Plaintiff James David Arthur Ford is sui 20 *juris*, a resident of Placer County, California, and was a passenger onboard the 21 Grand Princess cruise from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 22 Individual and representative Plaintiff Carole Kealy is *sui juris*, a 23 3. 24 resident of San Francisco County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 25 26 2020. 27 28

4. 1 Individual and representative Plaintiff Kelly Sandoval is *sui juris*, a resident of Shasta County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand 2 3 Princess cruise from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 4 5. Individual and representative Plaintiff Ruben Sandoval is *sui juris*, a 5 resident of Shasta County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand 6 Princess cruise from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 7 6. Individual Plaintiff Stephen Collins is *sui juris*, a resident of San 8 Francisco County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess 9 cruise from February 11, 2020, and continued onboard the ship to Hawaii. He 10 disembarked on or about March 10, 2020. 11 7. Individual Plaintiff Sarah Davies is *sui juris*, a resident of Solano 12 County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 13 February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 14 8. Individual Plaintiff Kurt Emerald is *sui juris*, a resident of Shasta 15 County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 16 February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 17 9. Individual Plaintiff Tracy Emerald is *sui juris*, a resident of Shasta 18 County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 19 February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 20 10. Individual Plaintiff Larry A. Fisher is *sui juris*, a resident of Alameda 21 County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 22 February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 23 11. Individual Plaintiff Rita Fisher is *sui juris*, a resident of Alameda County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 24 25 February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. Individual Plaintiff David Gonsalves is *sui juris*, a resident of Contra 26 12. 27 Costa County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise 28 from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020.

1 13. Individual Plaintiff Mary Ann Gonsalves is *sui juris*, a resident of 2 Contra Costa County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess 3 cruise from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 4 14. Individual Plaintiff Tracie Ling is *sui juris*, a resident of Solano 5 County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 6 February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 7 Individual Plaintiff Brian Losie is *sui juris*, a resident of British 15. 8 Columbia, Canada, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 9 February 11, 2020, and continued onboard the ship to Hawaii. He disembarked on 10 March 9, 2020. Individual Plaintiff Peggy Losie is sui juris, a resident of British 11 16. 12 Columbia, Canada, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 13 February 11, 2020, and continued onboard the ship to Hawaii. She disembarked on 14 March 9, 2020. 15 17. Individual Plaintiff John Miller is *sui juris*, a resident of Sonoma County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 16 17 February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 18 Individual Plaintiff Renate Miller is *sui juris*, a resident of Sonoma 18. 19 County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from 20 February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 21 19. Individual Plaintiff Kenneth Prag is *sui juris*, a resident of San 22 Francisco County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess 23 cruise from February 11, 2020, and continued onboard the ship to Hawaii. He disembarked on March 10, 2020. 24 25 20. Individual Plaintiff Marie Rivera is *sui juris*, a resident of Contra 26 Costa County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise 27 from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020. 28

1	21. Individual Plaintiff Paul Rivera is <i>sui juris</i> , a resident of Contra Costa				
2	County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise from				
3	February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020.				
4	22. Individual Plaintiff John Shaterian is <i>sui juris</i> , a resident of Contra				
5	Costa County, California and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise				
6	from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020.				
7	23. Individual Plaintiff Judith Shaterian is <i>sui juris</i> , a resident of Contra				
8	Costa County, California, and was a passenger onboard the Grand Princess cruise				
9	from February 11, 2020, to disembarkation on February 21, 2020.				
10	24. Defendant CARNIVAL CORPORATION was incorporated in 1972 in				
11	Panama and has its headquarters in Miami, Florida.				
12	25. Defendant CARNIVAL PLC was incorporated in 2000, in Wales,				
13	United Kingdom. It also has its headquarters in Miami, Florida.				
14	26. Upon information and belief, Defendant PRINCESS CRUISE LINES				
15	LTD. is incorporated in Bermuda, with its headquarters in Santa Clarita, California.				
16	27. Upon information and belief, at all times hereto, CARNIVAL				
17	CORPORATION, CARNIVAL PLC, and PRINCESS advertised, marketed, sold,				
18	and profited (directly or indirectly) from and owned, controlled, and operated the				
19	cruise ship, M/V GRAND PRINCESS.				
20	ALTER EGO/PIERCING CORPORATE VEIL				
21	28. Defendants CARNIVAL CORPORATION, CARNIVAL PLC, AND				
22	PRINCESS are alter egos and/or agents of each other such that the corporate form				
23	should be disregarded.				
24	29. CARNIVAL CORPORATION and CARNIVAL PLC operate as a				
25	single economic enterprise. They share a senior executive management team and				
26	identical Boards of Directors. Both CARNIVAL CORPORATION and				
27	CARNIVAL PLC share a single headquarters in Miami, Florida.				
28					

30. As described by CARNIVAL CORPORATION in a filing with the
 Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), "Carnival Corporation and Carnival
 plc operate a dual listed company ('DLC'), whereby the businesses of Carnival
 Corporation and Carnival plc are combined through a number of contracts and
 through provisions in Carnival Corporation's Articles of Incorporation and By Laws and Carnival plc's Articles of Association."

7 31. Plaintiffs bring this lawsuit against CARNIVAL CORPORATION and
8 CARNIVAL PLC individually, but because the entities work as alter egos and/or
9 agents of one another, Plaintiff refers to them collectively throughout this
10 Complaint as "CARNIVAL."

32. In a federal criminal plea agreement signed by CARNIVAL in 2016,
CARNIVAL described PRINCESS as one of several "operating lines" that together
comprise the "Carnival Group" of companies. In that 2016 federal criminal plea
agreement, CARNIVAL stated that it "currently monitors and supervises
environmental, safety, security, and regulatory requirements for Princess and other
Carnival brands. Carnival Corporation & plc operate a total of 101 ships visiting
700 ports around the world, including most major ports in the United States."

18 33. CARNIVAL has ownership and control over PRINCESS, which is
19 organized under Holland America Group within CARNIVAL. CARNIVAL has
20 claimed in filings with the SEC that it wholly owns PRINCESS as a subsidiary.

21 34. CARNIVAL and PRINCESS share the same Board of Directors and
22 almost all of the same executive officers, and appear to use the same assets.

23 35. CARNIVAL exerts control and domination over PRINCESS's
24 business and day-to-day operations.

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JURISDICTION

36. This Court has Admiralty subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28
U.S.C. § 1333, as this case involves a maritime tort. The type of incident and
injuries suffered by Plaintiffs and the Class had the potential to impact maritime

commerce as Plaintiffs and the Class suffered harm and Plaintiffs and the Class
 were and continue to be at serious risk of imminent harm as a result of exposure to
 COVID-19 aboard the cruise ship upon which they were paying passengers.

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37. This Court also has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act, codified at 28 USC §1332(d)(2)(A) and (C), because the claims of the proposed Class Members exceed \$5,000,000 and because at least one member of the Proposed Class of plaintiffs is a citizen of a state different from at least one Defendant.

9 38. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants, who each
10 conduct substantial business in this district.

11

39. Defendant PRINCESS has its headquarters in Santa Clarita, California.

40. Upon information and belief, CARNIVAL, including by and through
its subsidiary, PRINCESS, markets cruise vacations to California residents and
employs thousands of California residents to work at its California headquarters.
The Court has personal jurisdiction over CARNIVAL because CARNIVAL is
authorized to do business in California, conducts substantial business in California,
and some of the actions giving rise to this Complaint took place in California.

18 41. The claims asserted herein arise from Defendants' contacts with19 California.

42. Additionally, each of the Defendants purports to be a party to the
Passage Contract, which purports to name the Central District as proper venue to
actions against Defendants. Although Plaintiffs do not concede the enforceability of
the Passage Contract, by naming this District as a proper venue, Defendants have
consented to personal jurisdiction in this District.

43. Each of the facts pleaded herein independently, but also all of these
facts together, are sufficient to render the exercise of jurisdiction by this Court over
Defendants permissible under traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

VENUE

44. Venue in the Central District of California is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Defendants are deemed to reside in any judicial district in which they are subject to personal jurisdiction.

45. Additionally, without conceding the enforceability of the Passage
Contract, Plaintiffs acknowledge the inclusion in the Passage Contract of a venue
selection provision designating the United States District Court for the Central
District of California in Los Angeles as a proper venue for this action.

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FACTUAL BACKGROUND

46. In December 2019, a new strain of Coronavirus known as COVID-19
or SARS-CoV-2 was first observed in humans in China. The virus quickly spread
through China and Asia and has caused a global pandemic. Infection with COVID19 is generally associated with symptoms such as fever, a dry cough, shortness of
breath, infection, and pneumonia, and it can be fatal.

47. In addition to the cold- and flu-like symptoms COVID-19 patients
typically experience, the virus has been linked to loss of taste and smell, blood
clots, severe strokes, heart inflammation, acute kidney disease, intestinal damage,
liver damage, and neurological problems.¹ Clinicians and public health experts
continue to learn more about the virus, its effects on the human body, and the
residual impact on the health of those who have been exposed to or infected with
COVID-19.

- 48. As of the filing of this complaint, there have been over 3.2 million
 cases and over 134,000 deaths in the United States as a result of COVID-19. Over
 4,500 cases and, as of this filing, 50 deaths have been reported in San Francisco.
- 25

 ¹ Lenny Bernstein, Carolyn Y. Johnson, Sarah Kaplan and Laurie McGinley.
 Coronavirus destroys lungs. But doctors are finding its damage in kidneys, hearts, and elsewhere., The Washington Post. April 15, 2020.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/coronavirus-destroys-lungs-but-doctorsare-finding-its-damage-in-kidneys-hearts-and-elsewhere/2020/04/14/7ff71ee0-7db1-11ea-a3ee-13e1ae0a3571_story.html (last visited April 29, 2020) or provide the story of the s

49. On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared
 COVID-19 a global health emergency.

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3	50. In early February 2020, experts in the European Union, led by				
4	epidemiologist Dr. Christou Hadjichristodoulou, released guidelines for the cruise				
5	industry that included an outline of the risk of COVID-19 outbreaks aboard cruise				
6	ships and recommended response protocols. ² Specifically, the guidelines directed				
7	that, in the event of a COVID-19 case, close contacts of the case should be				
8	quarantined in their cabin or on shore, and "casual contacts" should be				
9	disembarked. ³				
10	51. Defendants CARNIVAL and PRINCESS represent that they have a				
11	commitment to "the health, safety, and security" of their passengers and promote				
12	their business as one that "always strives to be free of injuries, illness and loss." ⁴				
13	They further assert that they "[s]upport a proactive framework of risk mitigation in				
14	the areas of HESS [Health, Environment, Safety, Security] aimed at preventing,				
15	monitoring and responding to threats." ⁵				
16					
17	² Interim Advice for Preparedness and Response to Cases of Acute Respiratory Disease at Points of Entry in the European Union (EU) / EEA Member States (MS):				
18	Advice for ship operators for preparednessand response to the outbreak of 2019- nCoV acute respiratory disease, Feb. 3, 2020,				
19	https://www.gac.com/491364/siteassets/about-gac/coronavirus/eu-interim-				
20	advice_2019-ncov_maritime_4_2_2020_f.pdf (last visited April 6, 2020); <i>see also</i> Matt Apuzzo, Motoko Rich and David Yaffe-Bellany, <i>Failures on Diamond</i>				
21	<i>PrincessShadow Another Cruise Ship Outbreak</i> , The New York Times, March 8, 2020, https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/08/world/asia/coronavirus-cruise-				
22	ship.html (last visited April 6, 2020).				
23	³ Healthy GateWays, Algorithm for decision making in response to an event of a suspect case of COVID-19,				
24	https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/08/world/asia/coronavirus-cruise-ship.html (last				
25	visited April 6, 2020). ⁴ Carnival Health, Environment, Safety, Security & Sustainability Policy &				
26	Governance, Carnival Health, Environment, Safety, Security & Sustainability				
27	Policy & Governance, https://www.carnivalcorp.com/leading-responsibly/health- environment-safety-security-sustainability-policy-governance/ (last visited April 7,				
28	2020).				
	⁵ Carnival Corporation & PLC Health, Environmental, Safety, Security, and Sustainability Corporate Policy, https://www.carnivalcorp.com/static- - 9 -				

52. 1 However, in or before early February 2020, Defendants became aware 2 of an outbreak of COVID-19 aboard the cruise ship the DIAMOND PRINCESS, 3 which is operated by CARNIVAL and PRINCESS. The outbreak originated on the 4 DIAMOND PRINCESS while the vessel was docked in Yokohama, Japan. Ten 5 cases were originally diagnosed, and that number rapidly escalated to over 700 6 cases—over one-fifth of the passengers onboard. Investigative reporting about the 7 Diamond Princess alleges that well after CARNIVAL and PRINCESS became 8 aware of the first case aboard the ship, Defendants worked to "keep the fun going" by "encouraging [guests] to mingle."⁶ 9

10 53. To date, at least14 of the DIAMOND PRINCESS' passengers have
11 died as a result of COVID-19,⁷ and cruises run by CARNIVAL have been
12 identified as responsible for more than 1,500 positive COVID-19 infections, and
13 almost 40 deaths.

14 54. On February 11, 2020—approximately ten days after Defendants 15 learned about the infection aboard the DIAMOND PRINCESS—Defendants 16 boarded Plaintiffs and over 2,000 other passengers onto the M/V GRAND 17 PRINCESS for a roundtrip voyage to Mexico without conducting any effective 18 medical screenings for passengers and without providing any additional 19 information about best practices to mitigate or prevent the spread of COVID-19. 20 55. Upon information and belief, throughout the course of the 10-day 21 voyage to Mexico, Defendants did not alter their on-ship protocols, event 22 itineraries, or cleaning and disinfectant practices in order to prevent the spread of 23 COVID-19. Defendants did not, for example, institute any medical examination or 24 files/0b8327aa-c3be-4022-a1a5-a6dad7123af7 (last visited April 7, 2020). 25 ⁶ Austin Carr and Chris Palmieri, *Socially Distance This: Carnival Executives* Knew They Had a Virus Problem, But Kept the Party Going, Bloomberg, April 16, 26 2020, https://www.bloomberg.com/features/2020-carnival-cruise-coronavirus/ (last 27 visited April 20, 2020). ⁷ Lauren Smiley, 27 Days in Tokyo Bay: What Happened on the Diamond Princess, 28 Wired, May 13, 2020, https://www.wired.com/story/diamond-princess-coronaviruscovid-19-tokyo-bay/.

1 screening procedures for passengers leaving and returning to the ship at any of the 2 M/V GRAND PRINCESS's ports of call. Nor did Defendants provide passengers 3 onboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS any information about COVID-19.

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56. On or around February 19, 2020, Defendants became aware of at least one passenger suffering from COVID-19 symptoms onboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS, but they did not alert Plaintiffs or other passengers aboard the ship, and did not put into place any guarantine requirements or shelter-in-place and social distancing protocols.

9 57. According to CARNIVAL's Chief Medical Officer, Grant Tarling, 10 MD, MPH, Defendants believed the infected passenger was carrying the virus when 11 he boarded the M/V GRAND PRINCESS on February 11, 2020, but because 12 Defendants did not provide any screening for passengers, they were unaware of his condition.⁸ 13

14 58. Dr. Tarling reported that the infected passenger sought medical

15 treatment from the medical center onboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS on

16 February 20, 2020. The passenger reported suffering from "acute respiratory"

17 distress" for about a week before seeking treatment. Dr. Tarling did not say whether

18 the passenger had sought any medical help prior to February 20, 2020. Upon

19 information and belief, this information would have triggered mandatory reporting

20 under 42 CFR 71.1 *et seq.* and constitutes a "hazardous condition" per 33 CFR §

160.216.⁹ 21

²² ⁸ Thomas Fuller, John Eligon, and Jenny Gross, *Cruise Ship, Floating Symbol of* America's Fear of Coronavirus, Docks in Oakland, The New York Times, March 23 9, 2020, https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/09/us/coronavirus-cruise-ship-oakland-24 grand-princess.html (last visited April 7, 2020).

Section 160.216 requires that "[w]henever there is a hazardous condition ... on 25 board a vessel or caused by a vessel or its operation, the owner, agent, master, operator, or person in charge must immediately notify the nearest Coast Guard 26 Sector Office A"[h]azardous condition means any condition that may 27 adversely affect the safety of any vessel ... or the environmental quality of any port, harbor, or navigable waterway of the United States. It may, but need not,

²⁸ involve ... injury or illness of a person aboard" 33 CFR § 160.202 (emphasis added). CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

1	59. Upon information and belief, multiple passengers on the M/V GRANI					
2	PRINCESS's Mexico trip suffered from COVID-19 symptoms while on the vessel,					
3	exposing other passengers, including Plaintiffs, and crew members onboard the ship					
4	to the virus. At least 100 passengers who traveled on board the M/V GRAND					
5	PRINCESS have tested positive for COVID-19, and at least two passengers who					
6	traveled on the M/V GRAND PRINCESS's Mexico trip died after disembarking. ¹⁰					
7	One of these fatalities was the first-reported death caused by COVID-19 in					
8	California. ¹¹					
9	60. On February 21, 2020, the M/V GRAND PRINCESS arrived at port in					
10	San Francisco and most of the passengers from the Mexico trip disembarked. Some					
11	passengers, including Plaintiffs Brian Losie, Peggy Losie, Kenneth Prag, and					
12	Stephen Collins, remained onboard to travel on the ship's subsequent voyage					
13	headed to Hawaii.					
14	61. Upon information and belief, on or about February 25, 2020,					
15	CARNIVAL and PRINCESS emailed passengers that had traveled on the M/V					
16	GRAND PRINCESS's trip to Mexico alerting them that some of their fellow					
17	travelers had suffered from COVID-19 and that they may have been exposed to					
18	COVID-19.					
19						
20						
21	¹⁰ Mark Berman, <i>Two Grand Princess passengers die from coronavirus, officials</i> <i>say</i> , The Washington Post, March 25, 2020,					
22	https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/03/25/two-grand-princess-					
23	passengers-died-coronavirus-officials-say/ (last visited May 19, 2020). ¹¹ It has since been discovered that other Californians suffered from and died as a					
24	result of COVID-19 prior to the February 11, 2020 cruise aboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS. Nevertheless, the death of a Placer County resident who traveled on					
25	the M/V GRAND PRINCESS's February 11, 2020 cruise to Mexico spurred the					
26	state's initial stay-at-home orders. <i>See</i> Placer County Announces Death of Patient with COVID-19, March 4, 2020, https://www.placer.ca.gov/6438/Death-of-patient-					
27	with-COVID-19 (last visited May 19, 2020); Bill Chapel, Coronavirus Deaths in Washington and California, Where Gov. Declares Emergency, NPR, March 4,					
28	2020, https://www.npr.org/sections/health-					
	shots/2020/03/04/812121540/coronavirus-los-angeles-declares-emergency-and-u-s- reports-80-cases-in-13-states (last visited May 19, 2020). - 12 -					
	- 12 -					

62. 1 On March 4, 2020, Defendants alerted passengers who had embarked 2 upon the Hawaii-bound trip aboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS on February 21, 3 2020, about a "small cluster of COVID-19 cases in Northern California" related to 4 Plaintiffs' Mexico-bound trip aboard the ship. Upon information and belief, 5 Defendants knew at that time that M/V GRAND PRINCESS passengers on the 6 February 21, 2020, voyage were currently suffering from COVID-19 and that there 7 was a potential outbreak.

8 Spurred by information regarding conditions onboard the M/V 63. 9 GRAND PRINCESS during its Hawaii voyage, and by the death of a passenger 10 who had been onboard the ship during Plaintiffs' Mexico-bound trip, Governor 11 Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency on March 4, 2020, to manage the 12 COVID-19 outbreak in California. As a result, the State of California refused to allow the vessel into port in San Francisco, forcing the vessel to anchor off the 13 14 city's coast. Governor Newsom stated at a press conference that there were 11 15 passengers and 10 crew members experiencing symptoms.

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64. On or about March 4, 2020, Defendants asked passengers who traveled 17 on both the Mexico and Hawaii trips, including Plaintiffs Brian Losie, Peggy Losie, 18 and Kenneth Prag, to quarantine in their cabins.

19 65. On or about Thursday, March 5, 2020, two weeks after the M/V20 GRAND PRINCESS sailed for Hawaii, Defendants instituted some changes in their 21 operation of the vessel, including cabin/state room quarantine, meal service within 22 the cabins/state rooms, and cessation of daily turndown service and communal 23 activities. Defendants had never instituted these protocols during the Mexico-bound 24 trip, despite knowing about the potential for contagion aboard the cruise ship, and 25 despite becoming aware, while the ship was still at sea, that at least one passenger 26 was suffering from COVID-19.

On or around March 6, 2020-two weeks after most Plaintiffs 27 66. 28 disembarked from their trip, and even longer after Defendants became aware that a

passenger was suffering from COVID-19 symptoms onboard—passengers that had 1 2 traveled onboard the Grand Princess from February 11 through February 21, 3 including Plaintiffs, received a letter from Defendants alerting them that they may 4 have been exposed to COVID-19 while onboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS.

- 5 67. Plaintiffs and other passengers who continued onboard the M/V 6 GRAND PRINCESS for the Hawaii-leg of the cruise were forced to remain 7 guarantined in their cabins until on or about March 9, 2020, when the vessel was 8 finally allowed to dock at the port of Oakland. Following disembarkation, 9 Plaintiffs and other passengers that traveled to Hawaii were forced to spend 10 approximately two weeks at government facilities, such as Travis Air Force base.
- 11 68. At the time of this filing, Defendant CARNIVAL has cancelled future 12 cruises embarking from San Francisco through the end of 2020. However, 13 CARNIVAL's website indicates that it intends to begin operating certain cruise 14 ships as early as October 1, 2020, potentially posing grave threats to their passengers, crew members, and the public health.¹² 15
- 16 If Plaintiffs had known the serious and actual risks of contracting or 69. 17 spreading COVID-19 while onboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS, Plaintiffs 18 would not have sailed on the February 11, 2020, roundtrip voyage to Mexico. Or, at 19 minimum, if they had been made aware after embarkation of the growing and 20 continued risk, they would have disembarked from the ship at one of its ports of call. Plaintiffs who remained onboard the M/V Grand Princess after February 21, 21 22 2020, to travel to Hawaii would not have done so.
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70. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, 24 Plaintiff Peggy Losie developed a cough while traveling on the initial leg of the 25 cruise, which traveled to Mexico. Her cough became progressively worse. On or about February 28, 2020, she presented to the medical center and was prescribed 26 27 Tamiflu tablets, issued an inhaler, and treated on a nebulizer. The medical center

¹² See Carnival, Health and Safety Updates, https://www.carnival.com/health-andsailing-updates (last visited May 31, 2020). CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

1 checked her temperature twice daily and she was asked to remain confined to her 2 quarters until the evening of February 29, 2020. At that time, the Ship nurse 3 declared Ms. Losie free to resume normal activities. Ms. Losie chose to self-isolate 4 for the next two days because she continued to feel ill and her symptoms had not 5 subsided.

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71. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, 7 Plaintiff Cynthia Lynn Ford contracted, and tested positive for, COVID-19. Ms. 8 Ford became ill and suffered from symptoms associated with COVID-19.

9 72. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, 10 Plaintiff James David Arthur Ford contracted, and tested positive for, COVID-19. Mr. Ford became ill and suffered from symptoms associated with COVID-19. 11

12 73. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, 13 Plaintiff Larry Fisher contracted and tested positive for COVID-19.

14 74. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, 15 Plaintiff Rita Fisher contracted and tested positive for COVID-19. She suffered 16 from severe symptoms associated with COVID-19 and was admitted to the 17 intensive care unit ("ICU"). She remained in the ICU until June 12, 2020— 18 approximately three months after passengers disembarked from the Grand Princess.

19 75. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, 20 Plaintiff Kelly Sandoval contracted, and tested positive for, COVID-19. Ms. 21 Sandoval became ill and suffered from symptoms associated with COVID-19.

22 76. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, 23 Plaintiff Ruben Sandoval contracted, and tested positive for, COVID-19.

As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, 24 77. 25 Plaintiff Carole Kealy became ill and suffered from symptoms associated with 26 COVID-19, including fever, fatigue, night sweats, and sleep apnea.

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78. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions,
 Plaintiff Marie Rivera became ill and suffered from symptoms associated with
 COVID-19.

4 79. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions,
5 Plaintiff Paul Rivera suffered from symptoms associated with COVID-19,
6 including a fever.

80. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions,
Plaintiff Judith Shaterian developed a respiratory infection, which is a negative
health outcome associated with COVID-19.

81. As a direct and proximate result of the negligence and gross
negligence of Defendants in exposing Plaintiffs and Class Members to actual risk of
immediate physical injury, Plaintiffs and Class Members have suffered injuries and
emotional distress of the nature and type that reasonable persons would suffer under
the circumstances alleged in this Complaint, including, but not limited to, suffering
anguish, fright, horror, nervousness, grief, anxiety, worry, shock, humiliation and
shame.

17 82. Additionally, as public health experts and physicians learn more about 18 the myriad ways COVID-19 attacks and damages the body, Plaintiffs and Class 19 Members develop new and evolving medical fears and uncertainties that require and will continue to require medical diagnostic exams. Plaintiffs and the Class 20 21 Members are suffering and will continue to suffer due to the ever-present fear and 22 anxiety that they will or may later experience negative health outcomes or complications as a direct and proximate result of being exposed to, and potentially 23 24 contracting, COVID-19 because of Defendants' negligent and grossly negligent 25 acts and omissions.

26 83. It is expected that, as a result of Defendants' negligence and gross
27 negligence, these Plaintiffs and the Class will continue to suffer and will, in the

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future, require medical services to monitor for as yet unidentified symptoms or negative health outcomes related to COVID-19.

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NOTICE

84. Section 16(A)(i) of the Passage Contract purports to require that
claimants provide notice to PRINCESS and CARNIVAL of any potential claims.
Although Plaintiffs do not concede that this provision is enforceable, Plaintiffs and
Class Members have complied with this requirement by providing written notice to
Defendants' electronically on June 25, 2020 and July 7, 2020.

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CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

10 85. Plaintiffs bring this lawsuit as a class action on behalf of themselves
11 and all similarly-situated persons pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure
12 23(a) and (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(3), and/or (c)(4). This action satisfies the applicable
13 numerosity, commonality, typicality, adequacy, predominance, and/or superiority
14 requirements of those provisions.

15 86. The proposed Class is defined as follows: All persons in the United
16 States, who sailed as passengers on the M/V GRAND PRINCESS cruise from San
17 Francisco, California, leaving on February 11, 2020, roundtrip to Mexico, including
18 those passengers who continued traveling onboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS to
19 Hawaii, which embarked on February 21, 2020.

20 87. Excluded from the proposed Class are: (1) CARNIVAL and 21 PRINCESS, any entity or division in which either have a controlling interest, and 22 its legal representatives, officers, directors, assigns and successors; (2) the judicial 23 officer(s) to whom this case is assigned and the judicial officer(s)' immediate 24 family and legal staff; and (3) governmental entities. Plaintiffs reserve the right to 25 amend the Class definition if discovery and further investigation reveal that the 26 Class should be expanded, otherwise divided into subclasses, or modified in any 27 other way.

88. The individual Plaintiffs named in this complaint support the use of the
 class action mechanism to achieve economy, efficiency, fairness, and consistency
 of result by determining the important common questions raised in this action on a
 common basis.

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A. <u>Numerosity</u>

89. 6 There were, on information and belief, approximately 2,422 7 passengers on the M/V GRAND PRINCESS for the cruise that is the subject of this 8 action. Their exact number and identities can be readily ascertained from 9 Defendants' records. The individual joinder of all passengers is impractical, and the 10 class action procedure is more practical, cost-effective, inclusive, and efficient than 11 multiple lawsuits on the common questions of law and fact that unite the class, or 12 piecemeal and incomplete individual joinder. The disposition of the claims of these 13 Class Members in a single action will provide substantial benefits to all parties and 14 to the Court. Class Members are readily identifiable from information and records 15 in Defendants' possession, custody, or control, as well as from records kept by the Department of Health and Human Services. 16

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B. <u>Typicality</u>

18 90. The claims of Plaintiffs are typical of the claims of Class Members in 19 that Plaintiffs, like all Class Members, sailed on the leg of the M/V GRAND 20 PRINCESS cruise that began on February 11, 2020 and returned on February 21, 21 2020. Plaintiffs, like all Class Members, have been damaged by Defendants' 22 misconduct in that they sailed on a cruise they would not have sailed on and 23 suffered significant injury, emotional distress and economic damage caused by the 24 negligence of the Defendants. The factual bases of CARNIVAL and PRINCESS's 25 misconduct are common to all Class Members and represent a common thread of 26 misconduct resulting in injury to all Class Members.

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C.

Adequate Representation

2 91. Plaintiffs CYNTHIA LYNN FORD, JAMES DAVID ARTHUR 3 FORD, CAROLE KEALY, KELLY SANDOVAL, and RUBEN SANDOVAL will 4 fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class Members. 5 Plaintiffs CYNTHIA LYNN FORD, JAMES DAVID ARTHUR FORD, CAROLE 6 KEALY, KELLY SANDOVAL, and RUBEN SANDOVAL have retained counsel 7 with substantial experience in prosecuting class actions, aggregate suits, and mass 8 torts.

9 92. Plaintiffs CYNTHIA LYNN FORD, JAMES DAVID ARTHUR 10 FORD, CAROLE KEALY, KELLY SANDOVAL, and RUBEN SANDOVAL and 11 their counsel are committed to vigorously prosecuting this action on behalf of all 12 Class Members, and have the financial resources to do so. Neither Plaintiffs 13 CYNTHIA LYNN FORD, JAMES DAVID ARTHUR FORD, CAROLE KEALY, 14 KELLY SANDOVAL, nor RUBEN SANDOVAL, nor their counsel have interests 15 adverse to those of the Class Members.

16

Predominance of Common Issues D.

17 93. There are numerous questions of law and fact, including those related 18 to Defendants' knowledge, conduct, and duty throughout the events described in 19 this Complaint, common to Plaintiffs and Class Members that predominate over 20 any question affecting only individual Class Members, the answers to which will 21 advance resolution of the litigation as to all Class Members. These common legal 22 and factual issues include, *inter alia*:

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what Defendants knew about the presence and risks associated a. with the COVID-19 virus, and contagions generally, and when they knew it;

25 whether Defendants should have canceled the subject cruise to b. 26 avoid exposing passengers to a deadly pathogen and/or taken other steps to avoid 27 exposing passengers to a deadly pathogen;

c. whether, in light of the widespread knowledge of COVID-19
 and Defendants' knowledge of the risk of contagion aboard cruise ships,
 Defendants had a duty to conduct medical screenings of passengers prior to
 boarding Plaintiffs and others onto the M/V GRAND PRINCESS on February 11,
 2020;
 d whether Defendants had a duty to decontaminate the M/V

d. whether Defendants had a duty to decontaminate the M/V
GRAND PRINCESS after they knew or should have known that individuals aboard
the M/V GRAND PRINCESS prior to the subject cruise were or were potentially
carriers of the COVID-19 virus;

e. whether Defendants had a duty to disclose to passengers
onboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS that at least one person onboard the vessel
was experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, and the related risks that Plaintiffs
could contract and /or spread the virus;

f. whether Defendants had a duty to institute social distancing or
quarantine protocols on the ship when they became aware that at least one
passenger onboard was suffering from COVID-19 symptoms;

g. whether Defendants failed to disclose, during the vessel's trip or
in the days immediately following, that passengers and crew aboard the M/V
GRAND PRINCESS between February 11, 2020, and February 21, 2020, were or
were potentially carriers of the COVID-19 virus and other relevant information;

h. interpretation of the applicable contract documents and the
associated "Passenger Bill of Rights" incorporated therein;

i. whether Defendants acted as alter egos and/or agents, such that
they should be held jointly liable for the conduct alleged herein;

j. whether CARNIVAL is liable for the acts, omissions, and
violations described in this Complaint;

k. whether PRINCESS is liable for the acts, omissions, and
violations described in this Complaint; and

whether the conduct of any or all of the defendants warrants the
 imposition of punitive damages to vindicate the societal interest in punishment and
 deterrence.

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E. <u>Superiority</u>

94. Plaintiffs and Class Members have all suffered and will continue to
suffer harm and damages as a result of CARNIVAL's and PRINCESS's unlawful
and wrongful conduct. A class action is superior to other available methods for the
fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.

9 95. Absent a class action, most Class Members would likely find the cost
of litigating their claims prohibitively high and would therefore have no effective
remedy at law. Because of the relatively small size of the individual Class
Members' claims (compared to the cost of litigation), it is likely that only a few
Class Members could afford to seek legal redress for Defendants' misconduct.
Absent a class action, Class Members will continue to incur damages, and
Defendants' misconduct will continue without remedy.

16 96. Class treatment of common questions of law and fact is superior to
17 other available procedures, such as multiple individual actions or piecemeal
18 litigation because class treatment will conserve the resources of the courts and the
19 litigants, and will promote consistency and efficiency of adjudication.

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F. <u>Limited Fund</u>

In an abundance of caution, Plaintiffs take note of the presently 21 97 22 apparent financial circumstances of CARNIVAL and/or PRINCESS to allege the possibility that their assets and resources available to fairly compensate Plaintiffs 23 24 and Class Members, to satisfy appropriate punitive damages awards, and/or 25 otherwise fairly address the claims against them may constitute a "limited fund" within the meaning of Ortiz v. Fibreboard Corp., 527 U.S. 815 (1999), such that 26 27 class certification under Rule 23(b)(1)(B) is necessary and appropriate as a matter 28 of due process and equity.

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1	G. <u>Mass Action</u>				
2	98. In the alternative, this matter should proceed as a mass action, as				
3	defined in 28 U.S.C. § 1332 (d)(11)(B)(i) and should be tried jointly on the ground				
4	that Plaintiffs' claims involve common questions of law or fact, including as set				
5	forth above.				
6	99. Plaintiffs' individual claims exceed the required jurisdictional amount				
7	of \$75,000.00.				
8	CLAIMS FOR RELIEF				
9	FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENCE AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS				
10	100. Plaintiffs re-allege all allegations in all preceding paragraphs as if				
11	alleged fully herein.				
12	101. Defendant PRINCESS owed Plaintiffs, and the Class, who were				
13	passengers who boarded the M/V GRAND PRINCESS on February 11, 2020, a				
14	duty to ensure that they would not be exposed to an unreasonable risk of harm.				
15	Defendant CARNIVAL, who wholly owner PRINCESS and "currently monitors				
16	and supervises" PRINCESS's adherence to "environmental, safety, security, and				
17	regulatory" requirements owed Plaintiffs a duty to ensure that their passage would				
18	be safe and secure, and free from exposure to an unreasonable risk of harm.				
19	102. Likewise, Defendants PRINCESS and CARNIVAL owed Plaintiffs				
20	and the Class a duty to take actions to prevent and mitigate the risk of threats to				
21	passengers' health and safety, including by ensuring that the M/V GRAND				
22	PRINCESS was properly cleaned, disinfected, and safely maintained before and				
23	during the voyage.				
24	103. Defendants knew or should have known that cruise ships pose an				
25	especially severe risk of viral outbreak. Defendants knew or should have known				
26	that cruise ships owned and operated by Defendants had been the sites of prior,				
27	lethal outbreaks of COVID-19, and should have been aware of new guidelines for				
28	the cruise industry published by Dr. Hadjichristoulou and a team of European				
	- 22 - CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES				
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experts on February 3, 2020. In particular, Defendants had knowledge of the actual
 risks facing passengers based on the outbreak of the virus on the M/V Diamond
 Princess.

104. Defendants knew or should have known that passengers boarding the
M/V GRAND PRINCESS could be carriers of COVID-19, and that crew members
aboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS were or could have been exposed to COVID19 and were or could have been carriers of the virus, but did not institute any
screening procedures prior to the February 11, 2020, embarkation of the M/V
Grand Princess.

10 105. Defendants failed to do what a reasonably careful cruise ship owner11 and operator would do under the circumstances.

12 106. Defendants breached their duty to Plaintiffs and the Class when, with
13 the aforementioned knowledge, Defendants nevertheless chose to embark on the
14 San Francisco-Mexico voyage.

15 107. Defendants also breached their duties when, with that same
16 knowledge, they chose not to screen or medically examine any passengers or crew
17 members, or prevent those infected with the virus from boarding the ship, prior to
18 embarkation on February 11, 2020, or throughout the cruise at any ports of call
19 after passengers had left and returned to the ship.

20 108. Additionally, Defendants breached their duties to Plaintiffs and the
21 Class when Defendants repeatedly failed to notify passengers aboard the M/V
22 GRAND PRINCESS during the instant voyage that passengers traveling alongside
23 them were suffering from COVID-19 symptoms.

109. If Defendants had adequately informed Plaintiffs and the Class prior to
boarding, or at any other time, of the relevant information in Defendants'
possession, including facts regarding Defendants' lack of adequate disinfecting
procedures on the M/V GRAND PRINCESS, lack of adequate quarantining
procedures, and the actual risk of exposure to COVID-19, Plaintiffs and the Class

could have made informed decisions about their health and their families' health,
 including disembarking from or not boarding the vessel.

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110. Defendants repeatedly breached their duties to Plaintiffs and the Class when, throughout the San Francisco-Mexico voyage, with the aforementioned knowledge, they repeatedly chose not to inform Plaintiffs of the continuing and growing risks of contracting COVID-19, and chose not to provide Plaintiffs with the informed option to disembark at one of the vessel's ports of call.

8 111. Finally, Defendants continued to breach their duties to Plaintiffs and
9 the Class when, after learning that at least one passenger onboard was suffering
10 from COVID-19 symptoms, they, *inter alia*: chose not to warn Plaintiffs' and the
11 Class of the potential for infection; failed to implement quarantine or social
12 distancing protocols; chose to continue operating large, public gatherings and
13 meals; chose to continue to operate daily turndown service; and chose to continue
14 hosting communal activities.

15 112. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' failure to safeguard
Plaintiffs and the Class, Plaintiffs and the Class were at actual risk of immediate
physical injury.

18 113. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of their duties
of care and their negligent exposure of Plaintiffs and the Class to COVID-19,
Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered illness and injury as described above in ¶¶ 6983.

114. As a direct and proximate result of the aforementioned negligence of
Defendants in exposing them to actual risk of immediate physical injury, Plaintiffs
and the Class have suffered physical injury, emotional distress of the nature and
type that reasonable persons would suffer under the circumstances alleged in this
Complaint, including, but not limited to, suffering, anguish, fright, horror,
nervousness, grief, anxiety, worry, shock, humiliation and shame. They were
traumatized by the fear of developing COVID-19. It is expected that they will

continue to suffer and will, in the future, require medical services not of a kind generally anticipated as part of the effects of daily life.

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SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION **GROSS NEGLIGENCE AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS**

115. Plaintiffs re-allege all allegations in paragraphs 1-99 as if alleged fully herein.

116. Defendants PRINCESS and its owner CARNIVAL, which supervises and monitor's PRINCESS's adherence to safety, security, environmental, and regulatory requirements, each owed a duty to Plaintiffs and the Class to: safeguard against and mitigate the risks of passenger injury and illness; appropriately disinfect and sanitize the M/V GRAND PRINCESS, in light of the circumstances of a global pandemic; notify Plaintiffs and the Class of the actual and especially high risk of contracting COVID-19 aboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS; disembark passengers and crew members who had likely come into contact with individuals infected with COVID-19; and implement medical screening and examination protocols for crew and passengers.

117. Defendants knew of the unreasonably high risk of viral contagion of COVID-19 on cruise ships, and Defendants knew that it was especially dangerous to expose Plaintiffs and the rest of the Class to COVID-19 in light of the prior situation on the Diamond Princess off the coast of Japan.

118. Defendants' conduct in deciding to continue to operate the M/V GRAND PRINCESS with Plaintiffs and the Class aboard, even with the aforementioned knowledge, demonstrates an intentional failure to do what a reasonably careful cruise ship owner and operator would do under the circumstances, exhibits a willful and conscious disregard for the safety of Plaintiffs and the Class, and evidences recklessness and indifference by Defendants, which constitutes gross negligence.

119. Defendants' failure to abide by the guidelines issued on February 3, 2020, by not disembarking, quarantining or otherwise sheltering in their cabins the CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

passengers and crew members known to have come into contact with the
 passenger(s) suffering from COVID-19 symptoms onboard the instant cruise
 demonstrates a willful and conscious disregard for the rights and safety of others
 and amounts to an extreme departure of what a reasonably careful cruise ship owner
 and operator would do.

6 120. Defendants' choice not to warn Plaintiffs and the Class of their actual 7 risk of harm in being exposed to COVID-19 after learning about a passenger 8 onboard who came down with symptoms (and later died) constitutes a failure to provide even a modicum of care to Plaintiffs and the Class. The continued and 9 10 repeated choice not to provide passengers with notice of the actual risks facing them demonstrates a willful and conscious disregard for the rights and safety of 11 12 others and amounts to an extreme departure of what a reasonably careful cruise ship 13 owner and/or operator would do.

14 121. Moreover, Defendants' behavior demonstrated a willful and conscious 15 disregard for the rights and safety of others, and an extreme departure of what a 16 reasonably careful cruise ship owner and/or operator would do in their continued 17 and repeated choices to: not effectively sanitize and disinfect the M/V GRAND 18 PRINCESS during the San Francisco-Mexico voyage; not institute medical 19 screening and examinations for passengers and crew members; host large social 20 gatherings and meals; conduct daily turn-down service; and not implement 21 quarantine or social distance protocols at any point during the voyage. These 22 decisions manifest Defendants' utter failure to provide even a modicum of care to Plaintiffs and the Class. 23

122. Defendants chose to place profits over people, including the safety of
their passengers, crew, and the general public in continuing to operate business as
usual, despite their knowledge of the actual—potentially lethal—risk to Plaintiffs
and the Class.

1 123. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiffs
 2 were placed at actual, continual risk of immediate, and potentially fatal, physical
 3 injury.

4 124. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of their duties
5 of care and their negligent exposure of Plaintiffs and the Class to COVID-19,
6 Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered illness and injury as described above in ¶¶ 697 83.

8 125. Finally, as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' gross 9 negligence in exposing Plaintiffs and the Class to actual risk of immediate physical 10 injury. Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered emotional distress of the nature and type that reasonable persons would suffer under the circumstances alleged in this 11 12 Complaint, including, but not limited to, suffering, anguish, fright, horror, nervousness, grief, anxiety, worry, shock, humiliation and shame. They were 13 14 traumatized by the fear of developing COVID-19. It is expected that they will 15 continue to suffer and will, in the future, require medical services not of a kind generally accepted as a typical part of daily life. 16

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

126. Plaintiffs re-allege all allegations in paragraphs 1 - 99 as if alleged fully herein.

127. Defendants knew or should have known of the actual risk of viral contagion of COVID-19 aboard cruise ships, and, in light of the situation on the Diamond Princess only 3 weeks prior to the instant voyage on the M/V GRAND PRINCESS, Defendants knew or should have known that it was especially dangerous to expose Plaintiffs and the rest of the Class to COVID-19.

128. Even in light of this information, however, Defendants failed to implement any effective screening or medical examination procedures for passengers boarding the ship prior to the voyage.

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1 129. Defendants also knew or should have known that at least one
 2 passenger traveling on the instant trip aboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS was
 3 experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (that passenger eventually tested positive for
 4 COVID-19).

130. Nevertheless, Defendants continually and repeatedly: failed to take
any effective actions to prevent or mitigate the spread of COVID-19; failed to alert
passengers to the possibility of infection aboard the ship; and hosted and
encouraged participation in large group activities and events that Defendants knew
could lead to large-scale infection among the crew and passengers.

10 131. These choices by Defendants created a dangerous and threatening
environment in which Plaintiffs and the Class were forced to live for almost two
weeks, at all times directly at risk of becoming infected with, made ill by, and/or
spreading COVID-19.

14 132. As the direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions and 15 omissions throughout the duration of their voyage aboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS, Plaintiffs and members of the Class were in the "zone of danger," 16 17 where they were at immediate risk of actual physical harm, including the potential 18 of contracting COVID-19, suffering from the illness—including experiencing 19 shortness of breath, coughing, body aches, fever, and/or any number of yet-to-be-20 identified future ailments, such as liver damage, kidney failure, or blood clotting-21 and potentially death as a result of the virus.

133. Plaintiffs and members of the Class experienced severe psychic
injuries, of the nature and type that reasonable persons would suffer under the
circumstances alleged in this Complaint, when they were forced to watch first hand
as their friends and family members became ill with COVID-19, feared for their
own safety and well-being, and continue to fear that they may begin exhibiting
symptoms or health complications not yet identified as a result of COVID-19.

Plaintiffs suffered physical and emotional injury as the direct and proximate result of Defendants' misconduct.

134. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' extreme departure
from the ordinary standard of care and their failure to meet their duties of care to
Plaintiffs and the Class by providing even scant care, which exposed Plaintiffs and
the Class to COVID-19, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered illness and injury as
described above in ¶¶ 69-83.

8 135. Finally, as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' gross 9 negligence in exposing Plaintiffs and the Class to actual risk of immediate physical 10 injury. Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered emotional distress of the nature and type that reasonable persons would suffer under the circumstances alleged in this 11 12 Complaint, including, but not limited to, suffering, anguish, fright, horror, 13 nervousness, grief, anxiety, worry, shock, humiliation and shame related to their 14 own risk of contracting COVID-19 and the suffering they witnessed among their 15 fellow passengers who contracted COVID-19. Plaintiffs and members of the class were traumatized by the fear of their family members, friends and fellow 16 17 passengers developing COVID-19 and by the threat to their own health of 18 becoming infected with the virus or suffering future negative health outcomes or complications related to exposure to and / or contraction of the virus. 19

136. Plaintiffs and Class members were endangered and harmed by
Defendants' actions when they were forced to travel on an infested vessel without
appropriate information about the risks facing them. It is expected that Plaintiffs
and the Class will continue to suffer and will, in the future, require medical services
not of a kind generally anticipated as a typical part of daily life.

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1	FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION					
2	INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS					
3	137. Plaintiffs re-allege all allegations in paragraphs $1 - 99$ as if alleged					
4	fully herein.					
5	138. Defendants knew or should have known of the actual risk of viral					
6	contagion of COVID-19 aboard cruise ships, and, based on their experience with					
7	COVID-19 outbreak aboard the Diamond Princess only 3 weeks prior to the instant					
8	voyage on the M/V GRAND PRINCESS, Defendants knew or should have known					
9	that it was especially dangerous to expose Plaintiffs and the rest of the Class to					
10	COVID-19.					
11	139. By or before the time of boarding passengers onto the M/V GRAND					
12	PRINCESS, on February 11, 2020, Defendants knew or should have known of the					
13	extreme risks to health and safety—including the possibility of death—presented by					
14	COVID-19.					
15	140. In light of this knowledge and experience, and particularly given that					
16	cruise ships present an especially heightened risk of contagion, Defendants					
17	exhibited extreme and outrageous conduct when, inter alia, Defendants boarded					
18	Plaintiffs and the Class onto the M/V GRAND PRINCESS on February 11, 2020,					
19	without taking any effective measures to medically screen or examine passengers					
20	for COVID-19 symptoms.					
21	141. Defendants also knew or should have known during the instant trip					
22	that at least one passenger aboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS was experiencing					
23	symptoms of COVID-19.					
24	142. Defendants additionally acted extremely and outrageously when they					
25	chose not to effectively clean, sanitize, sterilize, or disinfect the M/V GRAND					
23 26	PRINCESS during the instant trip.					
20 27	143. Defendants exhibited repeated and continued extreme and outrageous					
28	conduct when Defendants failed to: alert Plaintiffs to the fact that at least one					
20	passenger on the trip was experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and had come into - 30 -					

contact with passengers and crew members; notify Plaintiffs and the Class about the
 actual and potential threat of exposure to, infection with, and the possibility of
 spreading COVID-19 aboard the ship; failed to advise Plaintiffs and the Class about
 the possibility and health benefits of disembarking during the trip, at one of the
 vessel's ports of call; and failed to notify Plaintiffs of the risks of remaining
 onboard the ship for the February 21, 2020 embarkation to Hawaii.

144. Defendants continued to behave extremely and outrageously when,
after learning about the ill passenger, they: encouraged Plaintiffs and the Class to
continue mingling and participating in large group events and functions throughout
the duration of the trip; continued to provide turn down service to passengers
despite the fact that crew members had likely been exposed to COVID-19; and
failed to institute any policies for quarantine, isolation, or social distancing for
passengers.

14 145. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' intentional and
15 reckless behavior and omissions, Plaintiffs and the Class suffered severe emotional
16 distress and physical harm.

17 146. Plaintiffs and the Class were forced to watch as their friends and
18 family members became ill with COVID-19, and, all the while, fear for their own
19 safety and well-being. Plaintiffs suffered physical and emotional injury as the direct
20 and proximate result of Defendants' misconduct, and Plaintiffs continue to suffer
21 from fear and anxiety that they may still begin exhibiting symptoms or experience
22 as-yet-unidentified complications due to their exposure to and potential contraction
23 of COVID-19 while aboard the M/V GRAND PRINCESS.

147. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' extreme departure
from the ordinary standard of care and their failure to meet their duties of care to
Plaintiffs and the Class by providing even scant care, which exposed Plaintiffs and
the Class to COVID-19, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered illness and injury as
described above in ¶¶ 69-83.

1 148. Finally, as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' behavior, 2 which exposed Plaintiffs and the Class to actual risk of immediate physical injury, 3 Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered emotional distress of the nature and type that 4 reasonable persons would suffer under the circumstances alleged in this Complaint, including, but not limited to, suffering, anguish, fright, horror, nervousness, grief, 5 6 anxiety, worry, shock, humiliation, and shame related to their own risk of 7 contracting COVID-19 and the suffering they witnessed among their fellow passengers who contracted COVID-19. Plaintiffs and members of the class were 8 traumatized by the fear of their family members, friends and fellow passengers 9 10 developing COVID-19 and by the past and ongoing threat to their own health of becoming infected with the virus and potentially suffering from as-yet-unidentified 11 12 negative health outcomes and complications.

13 149. Plaintiffs and Class members were endangered and harmed by
14 Defendants' actions when they were forced to travel on an infected vessel without
15 appropriate information about the risks facing them. It is expected that Plaintiffs
16 and the Class will continue to suffer and will, in the future, require medical services
17 not of a kind generally accepted as part of the wear and tear of daily life.

18 150. Throughout the events described in this Complaint, Defendants
repeatedly acted with conscious, callous, and/or reckless disregard for the rights,
interests, health and safety of their passengers, such that the imposition of punitive
damages, under CA Civil Code Section 3294 and/or all other applicable law, is
necessary and appropriate to punish them for their course of conduct, and to deter
them and others, and protect the public, from the consequences of similar conduct.

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PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves, and all others similarly
situated, pray for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as follows:

1. An order certifying the proposed Class pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule

23(a) and (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(3) and/or (c)(4), designating Plaintiffs Cynthia Lynn
 Ford, James David Arthur Ford, Carole Kealy, Kelly Sandoval, and Ruben
 Sandoval as named representatives of the Class and designating the undersigned as
 Class Counsel;

2. An award of damages totaling in excess of Five Million Dollars
(\$5,000,000.00), inclusive of compensatory damages for Plaintiffs' injuries, including
emotional pain and suffering and any other damages allowed by law, in an amount to
be proven at trial;

3. An award of the costs of Plaintiffs' and the Class's ongoing medical
monitoring and diagnostic examinations required to diagnose, prevent, and/or treat
current or future injury related to Plaintiffs' and Class Members' exposure to and
potential contraction of COVID-19, in light of the evolving scientific understanding
of the full risk and scope of health outcomes of the virus;

14 4. An injunction requiring Defendants to: disclose to future passengers the 15 nature and rate of risk of communicable disease upon their cruise ships; implement disinfecting and sanitizing procedures on each of their ships in between and during 16 17 voyages; implement appropriate social distancing and physical distancing protocols to 18 avoid or reduce the transmission of communicable pathogens; disembark and quarantine passengers when Defendants become aware of a heightened risk of 19 20 communicable disease aboard a ship; and canceling or discontinuing the operation of 21 cruises when Defendants know or should have known of a potential deadly pathogen 22 or similar aboard their ships.

23

5. An award of attorneys' fees and costs, as allowed by law;

24 6. An award of pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, as provided by
25 law;

26 7. Leave to amend this Complaint to conform to the evidence produced at27 trial; and

28 8. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

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1 2	<u>م</u>	_	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
2		-	nand a jury trial as provided by Rule 38(a) of the Federal
3	Rules of	f Civil Procedure.	
4			Respectfully submitted,
5	Dated:	July 13, 2020	NELSON & FRAENKEL LLP
6			
7			By: /s/ Gretchen M. Nelson
8			Gretchen M. Nelson (112566)
9			Gretchen M. Nelson (112566) gnelson@nflawfirm.com Carlos F. Llinás Negret (284746) cllinas@nflawfirm.com
10 11			cllinas@nflawfirm.com 601 So. Figueroa Street, Suite 2050
11			601 So. Figueroa Street, Suite 2050 Los Angeles, CA 90017 Telephone: 213-622-6469
12			Facsimile: 213-622-6019
13	Dated:	July 13, 2020	MARY ALEXANDER & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
14			,
15			By: /s/ Mary E. Alexander
17			Mary E. Alexander, Esq. (SBN 104173)
18			malexander@maryalexanderlaw.com Brendan D.S. Way, Esq. (SBN 261705) bway@maryalexanderlaw.com
19			<i>bway@maryalexanderlaw.com</i> 44 Montgomery Street, Suite 1303
20			San Francisco, California 94104
21			Telephone: (415) 433-4440 Facsimile: (415) 433-5440
22			1 desimile. (113) 135 5 110
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			- 34 - CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

(Case 2:20-0	cv-06226	Document 1	Filed 07/13/20	Page 35 of 35	Page ID #:35
1 2	Dated:	July 13,	2020	LIEFF CAB BERNSTEIN	RASER HEIM N, LLP	ANN &
3				By: /s/ Fliz	abeth J. Cabras	Sor
4						
5				ecabraser@l	Cabraser (SBN <i>Ichb.com</i> Selbin (SBN 17 <i>D.com</i> Street, 29th Flo o, CA 94111-3 415) 956-1000 415) 956-1008	70222)
6				<i>jselbin@lchb</i> 275 Battery S	Street. 29th Flo	or
7				San Francisc Telephone: (o, CA 94111-3 415) 956-1000	339
8				Facsimile: (4	15) 956-1008	
9				LIEFF CAB	RASER HEIM. N. LLP	ANN &
10				Mark P. Chal mchalos@lcl	lós (Pro Hac Vi hb.com	ce forthcoming)
11				222 2nd Aver Nashville, Tl	nue South, Suit N 37201	<i>ce</i> forthcoming) te 1640
12				Telephone: (Facsimile: (2	615) 313-9000 212) 313-9965	
13						
14 15				Attorneys for	· Plaintiffs	
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