# 15-3294-cv

## United States Court of Appeals

for the

### Second Circuit

RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LTD., RITCHIE SPECIAL CREDIT INVESTMENTS, LTD.,

Plaintiffs-Appellants,

- v. -

#### COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION.

Defendant-Appellee.

ON APPEAL FROM THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

#### JOINT APPENDIX Volume 2 of 2 (Pages A-166 to A-314)

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# **EXHIBIT D**

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#### LLC FILE DETAIL REPORT

Entity Name	RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.	File Number	00236497
Status	ACTIVE	On	10/10/2014
Entity Type	LLC	Type of LLC	Foreign
File Date	11/17/1998	Jurisdiction	DE
Agent Name	C T CORPORATION SYSTEM	Agent Change Date	05/31/2013
Agent Street Address	208 SO LASALLE ST, SUITE 814	Principal Office	120 N HALE STREET STE 300 WHEATON, IL 60187
Agent City	CHICAGO	Management Type	MGR <u>View</u>
Agent Zip	60604	Duration	12/31/2027
Annual Report Filing Date	10/10/2014	For Year	2014
Series Name	s Name NOT AUTHORIZED TO ESTABLISH SERIES		

Return to the Search Screen

Purchase Certificate of Good Standing
(One Certificate per Transaction)

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# **EXHIBIT E**

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### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.,	)
as administrative and collateral agent,	)
RITCHIE SPECIAL CREDIT	
INVESTMENTS, LTD., RHONE HOLDINGS	)
II. LTD., YORKVILLE INVESTMENTS I,	)
LLC, and RITCHIE CAPITAL STRUCTURE	)
ARBITRAGE TRADING, LTD.,	)
	)
Plaintiffs,	)
	)
v.	)
	) Case Number:
DEANNA COLEMAN, an individual,	)
MICHAEL O'SHAUGHNESSY, an individual,	)
THOMAS PETTERS, an individual, DAVID A.	)
BAER, an individual, SIMON ROOT, an	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
individual, and FREDRIKSON & BYRON, a	)
Minnesota Professional Association.	)
	)
Defendants.	, )

# COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF RACKETEER INFLUENCED AND CORRUPT ORGANIZATIONS ACT (RICO), COMMON LAW FRAUD AND TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE

Plaintiffs, Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C.; Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd.; Rhone Holdings II. Ltd.; Yorkville Investments I, LLC; and Ritchie Capital Structure Arbitrage Trading, Ltd.; by their undersigned counsel, state as follows for their complaint against Deanna Coleman, Thomas Petters, Michael O'Shaughnessy, David A. Baer, Simon Root and Fredrickson & Byron:

1. This case arises out of the long-running criminal racketeering enterprise operated by Defendant Thomas Petters ("Petters") and his associates, which most notoriously operated a Ponzi scheme based on false electronic and other product invoices. Separately, however, Petters and his associates schemed to develop legitimate businesses that could be sold or leveraged to

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raise funds. The fraudulent scheme in this case concerns Petters and his associates' use of those business activities to defraud Plaintiffs, investment funds and their manager, out of the benefits of valuable security interests in one of the world's most-recognized companies, Polaroid Corporation ("Polaroid"). Plaintiffs loaned over \$150 million to Polaroid's parent company, Petters Group Worldwide, LLC ("PGW"), in exchange for security interests in Polaroid, which Petters' associates represented to Plaintiffs on February 3, 2008 had an estimated value of \$779 million. After Plaintiffs made the loans, however, Petters and his associates schemed to defraud Plaintiffs out of the benefit of these security interests through various unlawful acts, including wire fraud and perjury. The unlawful acts of the conspiracy continued even though Petters, Coleman and others involved have been convicted or pled guilty for their participation in a Ponzi scheme involving another Petters' entity, Petters Company, Inc. ("PCI"). 1

2. From the first call on January 31, 2008 from an investment banker employed by PGW to the CEO of Plaintiff Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C. ("RCM"), Petters and his associates promised Plaintiffs a security interest in Polaroid. In fact, Polaroid's operations and prospects were emphasized in most, if not all, of the numerous telephone calls and meetings between RCM's CEO and Petters and his associates.

Plaintiffs observe that this complaint names individuals who are may fall within the terms of the December 8, 2008 Receivership Order in the case, *US v. Thomas Joseph Petters, et al.*, No. 08-5348. That Order, among other things, precludes the initiation of litigation against certain Receivership Defendants "except that such actions may be commenced if necessary to toll any applicable statute of limitations." *See* Receivership Order at 19. Plaintiffs respectfully submit that filing this action may be necessary for tolling any applicable statute of limitations and is, thus, explicitly permitted by the Receivership Order.

Second, Plaintiffs note that this case is filed as a related case to a pending case that names two different defendants not covered by the Receivership Order. *See Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C. et al. v. Mary Jeffries et al.*, 10-CV-00668. Plaintiffs contemplate seeking consolidation of the actions at the appropriate time.

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3. Petters and his associates promised to grant Plaintiffs the security interests in Polaroid and its capital stock on February 1, 2008, when Plaintiffs loaned PGW \$31 million to enable Polaroid, PGW's wholly-owned subsidiary, to repay an existing loan from JPMorgan Chase & Co. ("JPMorgan"), which existing loan was secured by a lien over Polaroid's stock and assets. Petters and his associates, purportedly acting on behalf of PGW, promised that after the JPMorgan loan was repaid and its liens released, Plaintiffs would step into the shoes of JPMorgan as Polaroid's senior lienholder. Petters and his associates agreed to provide additional security by providing Petters' personal guarantee of payment of the loans made by Plaintiffs to PGW. Petters and his associates specifically represented that Petters' personal guarantee was to remain in place only until JPMorgan's lien on Polaroid was released and Polaroid's stock certificates were delivered to Plaintiffs. Based on these representations by Defendants and their co-conspirators, one of the Plaintiff investment funds wired \$31 million on February 1, 2008.

4. After one of Plaintiffs' funds wired the initial \$31 million to pay JPMorgan, Petters and his associates initiated a scheme to deprive Plaintiffs of the benefits of their security interests in Polaroid. From the inception of that scheme through September 2008, Petters and his associates staged a series of meetings, telephone conferences, presentations and other conduct designed to mislead Plaintiffs into believing that their loans continued to be amply secured by Polaroid. At the same time, however, Petters and his associates were also pledging Polaroid's assets to third parties in connection with other obligations of various Petters companies. On September 19, 2008, over seven months after promising Plaintiffs their security interest in Polaroid, PGW and Polaroid finally executed documents memorializing the grant to Plaintiffs of security interests in a portion of Polaroid's assets.

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5. Just five days later, on September 24, 2008, federal authorities executed a search

warrant at Petters' office and elsewhere based on an affidavit accusing Petters and others of

operating a nationwide Ponzi scheme through Petters' other company, PCI. On

September 29, 2008, Petters resigned from his companies, and Plaintiffs obtained from the

Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois a temporary restraining order freezing the assets of

Petters, PGW and PCI. On October 3, 2008, Plaintiffs obtained an amended order from the

Illinois court appointing a receiver over the assets of Petters, PGW and PCI.

6. Meanwhile in Minnesota, on or about September 27, 2008, Petters retained an

attorney, Douglas Kelley ("Kelley"), to represent his companies. Thereafter and continuing

during the week of September 29, 2008, Kelley, acting as Petters' chief legal counsel, assumed

complete control over PGW and Petters' other companies. In this position, Kelley intentionally

ignored the orders Plaintiffs had previously obtained in Illinois and, inter alia, refused to

recognize the receiver appointed by the Illinois court, even barring this receiver from PGW's

offices, and obtained from Petters a proxy transferring Petters' rights as sole shareholder in PGW

and his other companies to Kelley's law partner, Steven Wolter. On October 6, 2008, the United

States District Court in Minnesota issued an Order that placed Petters' companies into

receivership and named Kelley as receiver of Petters, PGW and PCI. On information and belief,

the district court granted Kelley's receivership motion without Kelley having disclosed that the

Cook County Court had already appointed a receiver.

7. As Receiver, Kelley placed PGW and PCI into bankruptcy and became Trustee

over those companies' bankruptcy estates, creating irreconcilable conflicts of interest arising

from his obligations as the attorney, Receiver and Trustee for PCI and PGW. For example,

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rather than act on behalf of PGW's bankruptcy estate as Trustee, Kelley has taken steps to assure that PGW's assets are forfeited over to the Government in a forfeiture action.

8. In his capacity as attorney, Receiver and/or Trustee, Kelley terminated many of the individuals employed by Petters' companies. Kelley, however, retained PGW's Chief Operating Officer, Mary L. Jeffries, as Polaroid's Chief Executive Officer. This decision enabled Jeffries' to permanently deprive Plaintiffs of the benefits of their security interests in Polaroid, by causing the Polaroid bankruptcy estate to sell Polaroid's assets in a fire sale at a fraction of their true value.

#### II. Jurisdiction and Venue

- This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 18 U.S.C.
   § 1964 and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 10. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because Minnesota is where a substantial part of the relevant events occurred.
- 11. The conduct of the Defendants and their co-conspirators described herein was in or affected interstate commerce.

#### III. The Parties

- 12. Plaintiff Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C. ("RCM") is a Delaware limited liability company with its principal office in Wheaton, Illinois.
- 13. Co-Plaintiffs, Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd., Rhone Holdings II. Ltd., and Ritchie Capital Structure Arbitrage Trading, Ltd., are Cayman Island exempted companies that invest in securities of for-profit corporations operating in the United States and abroad. Yorkville Investments I, L.L.C. is a Delaware limited liability company that invests in securities

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of for-profit companies operating in the United States and abroad and has its principal U.S. place

of business in Illinois. Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd., Rhone Holdings II. Ltd.,

Yorkville Investments I, L.L.C., and Ritchie Capital Structure Arbitrage Trading, Ltd.

(collectively, the "Plaintiff Funds") have appointed RCM as their administrative agent in

connection with such parties' loans to PGW. The Plaintiff Funds and RCM are, collectively,

referred to herein as "Ritchie" or "Plaintiffs."

14. Defendant Thomas J. Petters is an individual who resided in Minnesota during the

relevant time period. He is now held in custody in the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth,

Kansas serving a 50-year prison sentence after his conviction for fraud, conspiracy and money

laundering. Prior to his arrest, conviction and incarceration, Petters was the sole owner and CEO

of PCI, PGW, Petters Capital, LLC, Thomas Petters, Inc. and all of their respective direct and

indirect subsidiaries. Prior to forming PCI and PGW, Petters was convicted of one or more

felonies in state court. Petters succeeded in expunging his criminal record, thereby concealing

his prior illegal conduct. Petters' criminal conduct was unknown to Plaintiffs until after Petters

was arrested in 2008 and his prior criminal activity was made public.

15. Defendant Deanna Coleman ("Coleman") is an individual residing within the

State of Minnesota. Coleman's office at PGW/PCI was next to Jeffries and across the hall from

the offices of Petters and Baer. As a principal player in the Petters criminal enterprise, Coleman

participated in and provided material assistance in the scheme to defraud Ritchie. Coleman

eventually provided material assistance and cooperation to the Government in prosecutions

arising out the Petters Ponzi scheme. She pled guilty to charges and was sentenced to one year

and a day in prison.

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16. Defendant Michael O'Shaughnessy ("O'Shaughnessy") is a resident of the State

of Minnesota. During the relevant time period, O'Shaughnessy was an advisor to Petters,

Polaroid and/or PGW who participated in negotiations over Plaintiffs' loans.

17. Defendant David A. Baer is a resident of the State of Minnesota. During the

relevant time period, Baer was PGW's Chief Legal Officer. Baer also participated in negotiating

the Plaintiffs' loans and took part in the scheme to deprive Plaintiffs of their security interests in

Polaroid for which Plaintiffs bargained in good faith and for which Plaintiffs paid valuable

consideration.

18. Defendant Fredrikson & Byron ("F&B"), a Minnesota Professional Association,

is a law firm with offices located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Attorneys with F&B provide legal

services as agents of the firm. From approximately 1998 through 2008, various F&B attorneys

provided professional legal services as outside counsel for PCI and PGW, including John

Koneck and David Marshall, who were Petters' personal friends and who provided or arranged

for legal services to Petters' companies in connection with FBI interviews of Petters company

executives in 2003.

19. Defendant, Simon Root ("Root"), provided professional legal services related to

various transactions entered into by multiple entities owned by Petters over a 10-year period

from 1998 through 2008. Root participated in and provided material assistance in the scheme to

defraud Plaintiffs by participating in the negotiation of the Plaintiffs' loans to PGW. Other F&B

attorneys also provided professional legal services to Petters and his organizations over the same

10-year period that materially aided Petters' criminal enterprise.

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#### IV. Co-Conspirators and Other Persons

- 20. Mary Jeffries, a co-conspirator ("Jeffries"), is a resident of the State of Minnesota. Jeffries became associated with Petters' unlawful enterprise when she joined PGW in 2004 as Chief Operating Officer. From 2006 until October 2008, she was PGW's President and Chief Operating Officer. In April 2005, Jeffries submitted an affidavit in another case in which she swore she was Chief Operating Officer of PCI, the vehicle through which Petters operated the PCI Ponzi scheme. Beginning in at least February 2008 and continuing thereafter, Jeffries conspired with Petters and his associates in the scheme to deprive Plaintiffs of their security interests in Polaroid for which Plaintiffs bargained in good faith and for which Plaintiffs paid valuable consideration. In or about April 2008, Jeffries was named as Polaroid's Chief Executive Officer. Jeffries used her position to continue the scheme to deprive Plaintiffs of their security interests in Polaroid. Jeffries also is an indirect shareholder and executive of Zink Imaging, Inc., a former Polaroid division that was spun-off through a buyout in January of 2006. Zink is an integrated design, development and manufacturing center with expertise in digital photo printing and is an important supplier of products to Polaroid.
- 21. Camille Chee-Awai, a co-conspirator ("Chee-Awai"), is a resident of the State of Florida. During the relevant time period, Chee-Awai was associated with Petters' unlawful enterprise and served as the CEO of Petters Capital, LLC, another entity owned and controlled by Petters. She participated in negotiating the substantial loans extended to PGW by Plaintiffs and took part in the scheme to deprive Plaintiffs of their security interests in Polaroid for which Plaintiffs bargained in good faith and for which Plaintiffs paid valuable consideration.
- Douglas A. Kelley, is a Minnesota lawyer and principal at the law firm of KelleyWolter, PC located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Kelley, a former Assistant U.S. Attorney who

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unsuccessfully ran in the Republican primary for Governor of the State of Minnesota in 1990, is the Receiver over the assets of Petters, PGW, PCI and other related companies. He also serves

as the Trustee in the PGW and PCI bankruptcy proceedings.

23. Steven Wolter ("Wolter"), is a Minnesota lawyer and another principal at Kelley

& Wolter, PC. Wolter holds an Irrevocable Proxy from Petters, dated October 5, 2008, giving

Wolter control over the equity capital of all Petters-owned companies, including Polaroid.

24. PCI is a Minnesota corporation with offices in Minnetonka, Minnesota. Petters

used PCI to sell the promissory notes at the heart of his fraudulent activities. The offices of

Petters, PGW and PCI were located in the same suite in a Minnetonka, Minnesota office

building. On October 6, 2008, PCI was placed into receivership in United States District Court

for the District of Minnesota (the "Receivership Action"). At Kelley's direction, PCI filed for

bankruptcy protection in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Minnesota on

October 11, 2008.

25. PGW is a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business

in Minnetonka, Minnesota. PGW served as an umbrella company used by Petters to oversee a

group of approximately 60 companies in which Petters invested. On October 6, 2008, the

Receivership Action was expanded to include PGW, and PGW was placed into receivership in

the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota. Five days later, on October 11,

2008, Kelley caused PGW to file for bankruptcy protection in the United States Bankruptcy

Court for the District of Minnesota.

26. Polaroid Corporation and Polaroid Consumer Electronics LLC, co-conspirators,

are Delaware limited liability companies with their principal place of business in Minnetonka,

Minnesota (collectively, "Polaroid"). PGW acquired control of 100% of the outstanding shares

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of Polaroid in or about April, 2005. On December 18, 2008, at the direction of Kelley, Polaroid

filed for bankruptcy protection in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of

Minnesota.

27. Polaroid Holding Company ("PHC") is a Delaware corporation that is owned by

PGW and serves as the holding company for Polaroid. PHC was included in the Polaroid

bankruptcy filing.

28. JPMorgan Chase & Co. is a global financial services firm with assets of \$2 trillion

and operations in more than 60 countries. In 2002, JPMorgan's private equity unit, One Equity

Partners LLC ("OEP"), acquired control of Polaroid, helping it to emerge from its earlier

bankruptcy. OEP and the other owners of Polaroid sold 100% of Polaroid to PGW in April 2005

for \$426 million. PGW borrowed a portion of the funds used to purchase Polaroid from

JPMorgan. At or about that time, JPMorgan also provided Polaroid with an asset-based loan

credit facility secured by Polaroid's stock and assets.

29. Petters, Coleman, Baer, O'Shaughnessy, Root and Fredrikson & Byron are

referred to, collectively, as "Defendants." Defendants and other co-conspirators are also referred

to as "Petters and his associates."

30. The Defendants herein acted in their individual capacities and for their own

personal gain in agreeing with Petters to achieve an unlawful purpose and committing acts in

furtherance of their objectives. The automatic stay provisions of section 362 of the Bankruptcy

Code do not apply to the officers or employees of PCI, PGW or Polaroid. The relief sought in

this complaint seeks no relief against any of those debtors and, therefore, will not result in any

harm to them.

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### V. Factual Allegations Common to All Claims

#### A. Plaintiffs' \$31 million loan to PGW.

- 31. In January 2008, Petters and his associates sought to induce Plaintiffs to loan PGW funds to bridge Polaroid's capital requirements in anticipation of a sale of certain Polaroid assets then being negotiated. To identify potential lenders, one or more of the conspirators contacted and sought the assistance of a number of investment bankers and investment funds about this "opportunity."
- 32. On Thursday, January 31, 2008 at 4:34 PM, RCM's Thane Ritchie received an email from George Johnson, Senior Vice President/Sales of Capital Financial Advisors, LLC, a Chicago-based investment banking firm raising money for Petters, which stated:

Hi Thane,

I have an opportunity that you might have interest in . . . do you guys participate in short term secured financing deals? The note would be secured by the assets of a company with value far exceeding the value of the note.

Let me know ASAP.

George [Emphasis added]

A copy of this email is attached as Exhibit A.

- 33. Later that day, at 8:08 PM, Thane Ritchie responded by email to Mr. Johnson expressing his interest and inquired "what kind of assets? Company?" (Exhibit A.)
- 34. Mr. Johnson responded to Mr. Ritchie the next day Friday, February 1, 2008, at 1:27 PM with an email stating:

We have to move fast . . . I will send you a term sheet . . . 90 day loan (20% interest . . . 80% annualized . . . backed by the entire Polaroid corporation. (Exhibit A.)

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35. Later that same Friday February 1, 2008, Johnson initiated a conference call

between Thane Ritchie and Petters, Jeffries and Baer. On this call, Petters prefaced PGW's

urgent need for cash by stating that PGW was seeking a short-term loan of approximately \$120

million, secured by Polaroid assets, to bridge the sale of certain Polaroid North American

trademarks and licenses. Petters, Jeffries and Baer stated unequivocally that PGW was seeking

the loans for the benefit of Polaroid, PGW's wholly-owned subsidiary.

36. Petters stressed that the value of Polaroid's North American trademarks and

licenses alone exceeded \$330 million and represented that the proposed purchaser of those assets

was a well-known publicly traded brand management company that licensed and marketed a

portfolio of consumer brands.

37. Petters stated that he would not normally have a problem obtaining financing for a

valuable asset like Polaroid but that JPMorgan held a lien on Polaroid's assets and stock as

security for an asset-based loan that provided Polaroid with a line of revolving credit. Petters

and Jeffries stated that PGW needed \$31 million that day to pay off JPMorgan so that JPMorgan

would release its liens, permitting PGW to cause Polaroid to pledge its assets to Plaintiffs as

collateral for the requested loans. Jeffries and Defendant Baer participated in the conference call

and did not contradict Petters' statements made during the call.

38. Thane Ritchie expressed interest in lending the \$31 million to PGW, but only on

the condition that Polaroid was pledged. Petters already knew that Thane Ritchie would not

agree to loan the funds unless Polaroid was pledged. That was the collateral Thane Ritchie

required when Petters approached him in or about 2005 seeking financing from Plaintiffs for

PGW's Polaroid acquisition.<sup>2</sup> As he had done in or about 2005, Thane Ritchie insisted to Petters

<sup>2</sup> Although Mr. Ritchie and Petters had in 2005 discussed the possibility of a loan to Petters

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and Jeffries that any loan must be secured by Polaroid. During this February 1, 2008 conference call, Petters offered to be available at any time to discuss the deal, and he put Jeffries and Baer at Thane Ritchie's disposal to assist in Plaintiffs' due diligence efforts.

- 39. RCM's President, John Kermath, understood Thane Ritchie's insistence to Petters that the loans were contingent on the grant of a security interest in Polaroid. Mr. Kermath states that:
  - 3. In connection with RCM's funds' loans to PGW, I can attest that RCM and its funds were interested exclusively in Polaroid Corporation (Polaroid). As President of RCM, I understood at all times that the loans to PGW were about Polaroid. Specifically, in discussing how the original \$31 million would be secured, the discussion was always about Polaroid and, in effect, that the loan would be secured by Polaroid.
  - 4. In making the various loans to PGW in February 2008 and after, my colleagues and I worked with Tom Petters and his team, including Mary Jeffries ("Jeffries"), Camille Chee-Awai ("Chee-Awai") and David Baer ("Baer").
  - 5. RCM was shown documents dated January 30, 2008 -- by Petters and his team that Polaroid was valued in excess of \$700 million and that, in February 2008 when Ritchie first began providing substantial loans, that Ritchie was in fact over-collateralized because Polaroid was valued for far more than the sum of the loans made by Ritchie's funds. Indeed, as President of RCM, I continued to monitor Polaroid's value after February 2008.
  - 6. At no time until the FBI raid on Petters and his companies in or around September 2008 was I aware that Petters allegedly operated a Ponzi scheme in PCI.

Affidavit of John Kermath, attached hereto as Exhibit B.

40. As promised by Petters in the conference call, from February 1, 2008 through February 19, 2008, Defendants and their co-conspirators transmitted documents and information

to finance PGW's acquisition of Polaroid, no such loans were made and, prior to the loans made in February 2008, no transaction had ever occurred between any Petters company and Mr. Ritchie or any of his affiliated investment funds.

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in interstate commerce, including by email and telephone, calculated to induce and did in fact induce Plaintiffs to loan PGW \$31 million and other substantial sums of money.

41. At 4:37 PM on Friday, February 1, 2008, PGW's Chee-Awai sent an email at Jeffries's direction with the subject "Petters POL Due Diligence Info" to Thane Ritchie, with copies to Jeffries, Baer and Petters, as well as to two individuals at an investment banking firm Calibrax, LLP, stating:

Thane,

Subsequent to [Calibrax's] Mike Clofine's request, please see the attached information on Polaroid. The information includes the following:

- A) Draft of Polaroid's 2006 audited financial statements
- B) Last financial report sent to JPM[organ] reflection financial performance as of Nov 30 2007
- C) Brand valuation prepared by Duff and Phelps
- D) Summary of historical financials and capital structure of Polaroid. . . .

Let me know if you need additional information.

Thanks for your support.

Camille

A copy of Chee-Awai's February 1, 2008 email with attachments is attached hereto Exhibit C to this Complaint.

42. Based on and in reliance upon the representations of the Petters team that (i) Polaroid and its capital stock would be pledged as security for the \$31 million loan, (ii) Polaroid had more than sufficient value as collateral and (iii) the \$31 million loan would be used to pay off in full JPMorgan's loans to Polaroid, on February 1, 2008, one of the Plaintiff Funds agreed to loan PGW \$31 million. As it was already late on Friday, Petters said that he was unable to arrange the pay off of the JPMorgan loan and obtain a release of JPMorgan's liens on that day.

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Therefore, Petters agreed to personally guarantee Plaintiffs' loan until JPMorgan was paid off

and released its liens on Polaroid's stock and assets. Based on wire transfer information supplied

by Coleman, on February 1, 2008, Plaintiffs wired the \$31 million for the use of PGW to an

M&I Bank account specified in writing by PGW.

43. At Jeffries's direction, Chee-Awai sent RCM additional information concerning

Polaroid's capital structure in two emails dated February 3, 2008, at 9:28 AM and 10:30 AM,

stating that JPMorgan's liens were "over collateralized." Based on this information, Jeffries

urged Thane Ritchie to release Petters' personal guaranties, implying that even with JPMorgan's

lien securing the approximately \$31 million of indebtedness remaining outstanding, Plaintiffs'

loans were secured by Polaroid and its stock which provided ample collateral. Plaintiffs,

however, relying on Petters' promise that the Plaintiffs would essentially step into JPMorgan's

shoes with security interests in Polaroid, refused to release Petters' personal guarantee until

Plaintiffs received formal documentation (i) indicating that the JPMorgan loan had been paid off

in full and (ii) reflecting Plaintiffs' liens on Polaroid.

44. Under Illinois law, oral agreements to create a security interest are valid where

documents relating to the transaction evidence the intent of the parties to create such an interest.

The oral promises of the Defendants and their conspirators, as well as the documents

surrounding the transactions provided to Plaintiffs at the time the \$31 million loan was made,

evidenced an intent to create a security interest in Polaroid's stock and assets in exchange for

Plaintiffs' \$31 million loan to PGW, and in fact Plaintiffs relied on such promise when making

such loan.

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B. Petters' Respected Reputation in the Business Community.

with companies such as Emerson and Sunbeam.

45. Based upon the apparent success of Petters' business empire, Plaintiffs had good reason to feel secured by the Polaroid collateral that had been promised by Petters. Beginning in or about 1988, Petters launched his career as a "diverter," a middleman that locates hard-to-get consumer goods and resells them at a profit to retailers. By at least 1995, Petters' diverting business was purportedly operated through PCI. In or about 1999, Petters formed two separate companies, PGW and Thomas Petters, Inc. ("TPI"), which served as the holding companies for the various valuable and legitimate businesses Petters acquired over the years. Petters enjoyed a stellar reputation as a businessman and philanthropist. Petters' PCI business appeared to be highly successful, and PGW was recognized as "a leader in creating, developing and investing in companies that manufacture, procure and market merchandising solutions in key growth markets." Petters', PGW's, and TPI's global portfolio of companies grew to include Polaroid, Master Craft, Sun Country Airlines, Petters Aviation, Petters Real Estate, as well as holding major stakes in companies like Fingerhut and uBid.com. PGW also had licensing agreements

- 46. Petters used his wealth to buy influence in social and political circles, frequently contributing to local political campaigns. Petters contributed millions of dollars to educational institutions, including donating \$10 million to Miami University (Ohio).
- 47. Petters was highly regarded for his business and philanthropic activities. On February 8, 2008, a Private Banker at Northern Trust Company wrote a letter "To Whom It May Concern" stating, in pertinent part, that Petters "has and continues to maintain his banking relationship with Northern Trust at the highest standard." Indeed, on September 24, 2008, the

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same day the federal Search Warrant was executed, a Minneapolis television station KTSP posted on its website the following information extolling the virtues of Tom Petters:

**Activities**: Board of Trustees at the College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph; Board of Trustees at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida; and Business Advisory Council and Board of Visitors for Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

**Awards**: Corporate Leader of the Year in 2001 by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Distinguished Humanitarian Award in 2003 by B'nai B'rith, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters Odyssey Awards 2005.

Achievements: Establishing the John T. Petters Foundation and providing endowments at select universities, allowing Petters to take a tragic situation of losing his son and creating a positive experience for students around the country which he hopes will live on beyond his life and the life of his companies. Endowments at universities throughout the United States: College of St. Benedict, \$5.3 million to create the Thomas J. Petters Center for Global Education; College of St. Benedict, \$2 million for the Petters Auditorium; St. John's University, \$1.5 million for the Retreat Center; Miami University, \$10 million to establish the John T. Petters Center for Leadership, Ethics and Skills development in the Richard T. Farmer School of Business; Miami University, \$4 million to create the Jennifer Petters Chair in Asian Business; and Rollins, \$12 million to create two new faculty chairs in International Business.

- 48. As described herein, Petters and others were later indicted and charged with using PCI to orchestrate a massive Ponzi scheme. Petters' criminal trial on these charges began on October 26, 2009.
- 49. Prior to September 24, 2008, the date on which the FBI search warrants were executed, Plaintiffs had no reason to suspect that any of the monies loaned to PGW were used to support a Ponzi scheme being conducted at PCI.
- 50. On information and belief, while the Plaintiffs' funds were used to repay JPMorgan and release the liens on Polaroid, other proceeds of Plaintiffs' loans were comingled with and used in connection with PCI's Ponzi scheme.

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C. The Conspiracy to Deprive Plaintiffs of the Benefits of Polaroid's Stock and Assets.

51. In early 2008, the global credit crisis caused Petters and the defendants to

experience difficulty in obtaining additional financing. By early February 2008, this lack of new

capital led Petters to use Polaroid to attract additional money. Knowing that Polaroid had been

pledged to Plaintiffs, Defendants engaged in an elaborate scheme to delay and deprive Plaintiffs

of the benefits flowing from their bargained-for security interests in Polaroid so that they might

obtain additional funds from other lenders by fraudulently re-pledging the Polaroid assets.

52. PGW's efforts to raise money purportedly using Polaroid's stock and assets as

collateral was summarized in an email dated February 3, 2008 sent by Chee-Awai to Jeffries,

subject: "FW: Amount So Far...", which set forth the amounts "potentially tabled after my

discussion with Mike Clofine." It shows nine separate sources of funds for Petters' enterprises

with a "low" total of \$190 million and "high" total of \$290 million. An executive of one of the

funding sources listed in Chee-Awai's email, Interlachen Capital Group, testified about this

fundraising effort at Petters' criminal trial. According to the witness, Interlachen believed that if

it had provided the funding to PGW, Interlachen would have been secured by Polaroid

intellectual property.

53. After the initial \$31 million loan made on February 1, 2008, Plaintiffs made

additional loans in reliance on the value of Polaroid as represented by the Defendants and their

co-conspirators, and on the Defendants' and their co-conspirators' assurances that Plaintiffs'

loans were more than adequately collateralized by Polaroid. By February 19, 2008, the Plaintiffs

and related funds had loaned PGW over \$100 million. Jeffries, based on the representations of

Polaroid's value, continued to urge Plaintiffs to release Petters from his personal guarantees.

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Petters and his associates, however, stonewalled Plaintiffs about JPMorgan's release of its liens over Polaroid.

54. On Saturday February 9, 2008 at 3:46 PM, Kenneth A. Rosenblum, an attorney for Plaintiffs, sent an email to Root and Baer, with copies to other Plaintiffs and PGW representatives, stating:

At your earliest convenience, please forward the following (soft copies preferable to the extent they exist):

- 1. All closing documents for the recently paid down JPM[organ]/Polaroid loan.
- 2. Petters/Polaroid subordinated notes.

Also, have you conducted a lien search on the Polaroid entities recently?

Thanks in advance.

A copy of this email is attached as Exhibit D.

- 55. Later on February 9, 2008, Root sent an email at 4:57 PM to Baer, Chee-Awai and O'Shaughnessy asking "Was the JPM[organ] loan paid off on Friday?" Baer forwarded this email to Jeffries at 7:29 PM that night. At 9:48 PM that evening Jeffries emailed Robert McDonough at Polaroid and Thomas Beaudoin asking "Did the loan get paid off. I know we have till Tues. Thanks. Mary."
- 56. McDonough replied on Sunday, February 10, 2008 at 21:08 GMT stating as follows:

The JPM[organ] revolver has not been paid off yet. We are still waiting for direction from PGW that Tom's additional financing has been received and is available to fund Polaroid before we notify JPM[organ].

57. Petters' team later admitted that the JPMorgan loan had been repaid. On February 15, 2008 at 12:02 PM, O'Shaughnessy sent an email to Michael J. Legamaro, an attorney for the

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Plaintiffs, and Root, with copies to Baer, Chee-Awai and certain other Plaintiffs' representatives, stating that:

To this point I can say with certainty that *the PG* [Petters' personal guaranty] *was intended to only serve as a bridge* until we could legally make available "Polaroid" *as JPMorgan held a lien*. *As this is no longer the case*, the PG is no longer required. [Emphasis added]

A copy of O'Shaughnessy's email is attached hereto as Exhibit E. Thus, the \$31 million Plaintiffs loaned to PGW on February was used to repay the \$31 million obligation by Polaroid to JPMorgan.

- 58. Moreover, on information and belief, on February 14, 2008, JPMorgan sent a "payoff letter" to PGW confirming that, upon receipt by JPMorgan of the amount specified in such letter, JPMorgan's liens on the Polaroid stock and assets would be automatically released. On information and belief, the specified payoff amount was delivered to JPMorgan on or about February 14, 2008, and JPMorgan's liens on Polaroid were accordingly released. Additionally, also on information and belief, JPMorgan returned Polaroid's stock certificates on or about February 15, 2008. The stock was returned to Polaroid Holding Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of PGW that was the registered holder of 100% of the capital stock of Polaroid. Thus, as of at least February 15, 2008, JPMorgan's lien on the Polaroid stock should have been subrogated to Plaintiffs' interest.
- 59. Almost immediately thereafter, Defendants began a game of "keep away" in connection with the Plaintiffs' bargained-for interests. On February 19, 2008, Plaintiffs entered into the Note Purchase Agreement with Petters and PGW covering Plaintiffs' \$31 million loan and other loans made by Plaintiffs and related investment funds. Although the JPMorgan lien on the Polaroid stock and assets had been released, Petters remained personally obligated on the loans. In addition to PGW's promise to grant a security interest in Polaroid as collateral for

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Plaintiffs' loans, the note evidencing Plaintiffs' \$31 million loan to PGW also contained the following clause:

This Note is guaranteed personally by Thomas J. Petters, the owner of all of the issued and outstanding stock of the Borrower; provided, however, that the parties shall endeavor, as soon as reasonably practicable, to secure this Note (along with all other Notes of this tranche, pari passu) by a pledge of 100% of the capital stock of Polaroid Holding Company, LLC and the capital stock of its one hundred percent subsidiary the Polaroid Corporation (collectively, the "Polaroid Companies").

60. Unbeknownst to Plaintiffs, Petters and his associates had no intention to "endeavor" to pledge to Plaintiffs the capital stock of Polaroid Holding Company, LLC or Polaroid Corporation.

#### D. Defendants Execute their Scheme to Defraud Plaintiffs.

- 61. Having delayed perfection of Plaintiffs' security interest in Polaroid, Petters and his Associates were able to, in effect, fraudulently re-pledge those assets to raise additional capital or stave off other creditors. One example of Petters' and Defendants' fraud is the so-called Acorn security interest. Unknown to Plaintiffs, PGW granted another entity, Acorn Capital Group LLC ("Acorn"), a lien on many of Polaroid's assets on or about February 29, 2008 as security for a loan Acorn made to another of Petters' companies. On information and belief, on or about May 12, 2008, PGW granted Acorn a security interest in additional Polaroid assets, including the North American trademarks. This grant of security to Acorn demonstrates Petters' and Defendants' fraud; they used Plaintiffs' funds to release JPMorgan's liens against Polaroid and then re-pledged Polaroid assets to different lenders.
- 62. In or about April 2008, Jeffries knew that PGW's financial condition was deteriorating rapidly. On Sunday, April 13, 2008 at 1:47 PM, Jeffries sent the following email to Petters outlining the disastrous conditions at Polaroid:

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Subject: Messages with Mike re Polaroid.

Goal is to stop the Chaos, reunite the team, stabilize Polaroid, secure financing and monetize (get some of TJP money off the table!)

STOP THE LOSSES by continuation of the restructuring, cutting cost and change the LCD strategy to a TRUE direct with factory or retailer

TABLE BMA MIGRATION. We were driving to a business model that was not effective, split the teams in a senseless way, was too expensive, was not accomplishing goal of a true direct model (up to 55 people and we still had much of risk)

SLOW [the earlier transaction to sell Polaroid's North American trademarks] (DONE)

GET the business financed...need ABL

ENGAGE WORLD CLASS ASSISTANCE in creative monetization strategies QUICKLY-working with Tissman at Rothschild this week-driving to a meeting with broader group following week when Philippe in town and also biased to supporting Mike if there is a deal to be had

Finalize organization and responsibilities/accountabilities and drive toward hiring a CEO and a Licensing Expert.

**EXECUTE** 

Hope that helps, this is what I will be driving.

**Thanks** 

Mary

63. Jeffries, of course, did not convey her dire warnings to Plaintiffs, despite being fully aware that the Plaintiffs were relying on the value of Polaroid for repayment of their loans to PGW made in February 2008, all of which were due in full in May 2008. Further, although Jeffries's email shows that PGW "slowed" the original sale of Polaroid's North American trademarks, in a telephone call on or about May 1, 2008, Petters intentionally mislead Plaintiffs by stating to Thane Ritchie that the brand management company wanted to withdraw from the transaction due to the growing global credit crisis.

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64. Approximately two weeks later, on Thursday, April 24, 2008, Baer sent an email to Petters, Coleman, Chee-Awai, and certain other PGW and Polaroid employees. Baer's email

stated:

I just wanted to remind you all that the first Ritchie Note becomes due one week from today – NEXT THURSDAY, May 1, 2008 for \$31M and notes follow quickly after that on a daily basis. A detailed schedule with interest calculation is attached.

[Another investor] has stated very clearly that they want their \$25M plus interest and Ritchie, I understand, expects another \$25M - \$50M repaid.

Are we prepared to handle these repayments? Should we be working on these matters now? How would you like me to assist?

David

65. Although Defendants and their co-conspirators were acutely aware of PGW's precarious financial situation, they continued to represent that the Polaroid assets had enormous value.

66. Specifically, in or about May 2008, Jeffries and Chee-Awai began to oversee a massive effort to demonstrate the value of Polaroid. Jeffries began working with the Dean of the School of Business at Miami University (Ohio), to develop innovative methodologies to show Polaroid's value. In June and July 2008, Jeffries and Chee-Awai worked with investment managers and financial analysts to prepare a presentation package for potential investors in Polaroid. Jeffries proposed that the collateral to be offered in those presentations would include Polaroid's assets. Documents produced by Jeffries for this presentation package demonstrated that Polaroid's value exceeded \$1 billion.

67. The material for this presentation also emphasized pending plans to use the Polaroid trademarks in connection with a new "zero ink" printing technology owned by Zink, as well as the potential to license Polaroid's trademarks. Zink, the former Polaroid division that

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was subsequently spun-off through a buyout in January of 2006, is an integrated design,

development and manufacturing center with expertise in digital photo printing and is an

important supplier of products to Polaroid. Zink and Polaroid operated under an exclusive

agreement for the sale and delivery of Zink's products and technology to, and for use by,

Polaroid.

68. In addition to having a valuable business partnership, Polaroid also held a

valuable interest in Zink. Polaroid had sold Zink certain intellectual property around the Zink

technology for \$8 million, taking a note and security interest in the transferred IP (the "IP

Note"). To secure the exclusivity for the 3x4 format technology being developed by Zink for

upcoming Polaroid products, Polaroid and Zink entered into an exclusivity agreement whereby

Polaroid maintained exclusive rights to the Zink 3x4 technology and in exchange \$7 million of

the IP Note was converted into shares of Zink stock. Because competitors of Polaroid were also

Zink customers, these customers did not want the shares held by Polaroid so they were issued to

PGW Holdings, Inc. ("PGW Holdings"), a non-debtor affiliate of Polaroid subject to a court

ordered receivership, and Polaroid recorded an inter-company receivable from PGW Holdings in

the same amount. PGW Holdings currently controls approximately only 8% of the outstanding

voting shares of Zink.

69. The material prepared by Jeffries also reflect the potential sale of Polaroid's

trademarks in India to a group of investors referred to by Defendants as the "Spice Group,"

another topic Defendants and their co-conspirators also discussed with Plaintiffs.

70. Based on the representations of the value of Polaroid's assets, in May 2008

Plaintiffs agreed to extend the due dates on the Notes to late July/early August and PGW

succeeded in obtaining additional loans from two of the Plaintiff Funds. Most importantly,

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Jeffries, Chee-Awai and others confirmed that the additional loans obtained in May 2008 would be used for PGW's ongoing working capital needs.

71. On June 20, 2008, Defendants and their co-conspirators made or assisted in a

series of presentations to Plaintiffs' representatives at PGW's headquarters in Minneapolis,

Minnesota. These presentations included discussions about Polaroid's international trademark

licensing and the launch of a Polaroid/Zink strategy. These presentations were made to give

Plaintiffs further assurances as to the adequacy of the Plaintiffs' interest in Polaroid as security

for their loans and Plaintiffs relied on such representations in subsequent negotiations with

Petters and PGW over extensions of the due dates of Plaintiffs' loans to PGW.

72. In late July 2008, Jeffries continued to prepare presentations seeking funds using

Polaroid's assets and had already contacted several potential lenders. On July 29, 2008, Jeffries

emailed the investment banking group assisting her with the presentations, explaining that the

purpose of the fundraising was to benefit PGW and touting the prospects of licensing Polaroid's

trademarks. Jeffries's email states, in part, as follows:

Tom Petters has \$400M+ invested (equity, debt and accrued interest) in Polaroid Holding Company and wants to free up some of this capital as quickly as possible for other PGW business needs.

\* \* \*

We just returned from India and had successful discussions with a group from India to license the Polaroid brand and pay \$200M upfront fee and 3% royalty above \$1B in sales. KPMG was hired while we were in India to complete a review of the transaction and also to lay out a timetable to close on a deal.

E. Plaintiffs Exercised Due Diligence to Assure the Protection of Their Investments.

73. By mid-July 2008, the India trademark deal and other deals being discussed by Petters had not been completed, and Petters asked Plaintiffs for additional extensions on the

loans. Before agreeing to any further extensions, Plaintiffs made further efforts to confirm that

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Polaroid's assets provided ample additional collateral and they continued to conduct extensive

due diligence.

74. Petters and Jeffries failed to finalize the sale of the Indian trademark to the Spice

Group as promised, and in late July 2008,RCM sent one of its employees to PGW's office to

verify the security of Plaintiffs' loans.

75. While at PGW's offices, RCM's employee met with Coleman and others

concerning the security of Plaintiffs' loans. In the course of his meetings, RCM's employee

asked these executives what turned out to be embarrassing questions regarding, among other

things, certain spreadsheets provided by one of Petters' executives purporting to show that

Plaintiffs' loans could be secured by PCI's receivables in addition to the Polaroid security

interests they had already acquired.

76. As a result of the RCM employee's interviews, Petters sent an email on August 1,

2008 to the RCM employee, Coleman, Baer, Jim Wehmhoff and Thane Ritchie stating

I spoke to Deanna this morning we asked that she not send any information on PCI transactions since you [i.e. Plaintiffs] are not

using this as a form of collateral.

77. Petters made this statement to further assure Plaintiffs that Plaintiffs' loans

collateralized by Polaroid had nothing to do with PCI.

78. On August 12, 2008, Acorn filed suit to foreclose on a Petters' personal guarantee

securing the obligation to Acorn, alleging that Petters' companies had defaulted on their

obligations to Acorn. The suit alleged that Acorn held security interests in Polaroid. When

Thane Ritchie learned of the Acorn suit, he immediately demanded to know why Acorn was

alleging an interest in Polaroid when Petters and Defendants had repeatedly told Thane Ritchie

that no one other than the Plaintiffs would be secured by Polaroid. In response, Petters denied

that Acorn had any legitimate security interest in Polaroid.

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79. In early August 2008, as the extended maturity date on the notes evidencing PGW's obligations to Plaintiffs (the "Notes") approached, Petters asked Plaintiffs for another extension. In response, Plaintiffs demanded that PGW and Polaroid memorialize that Plaintiffs' loans to PGW were secured by Polaroid and conducted additional due diligence and investigations to confirm the adequacy of the collateral for their loans. For several weeks Plaintiffs negotiated over terms with Petters, Jeffries, Baer, and Root. Jeffries made the presentation on Polaroid's value and urged that there be a reduction in the interest rate on the Notes to emphasize the fact that such Notes were over-collateralized and adequately secured.

- 80. On September 19, 2008, Plaintiffs finally agreed to extend the maturity dates on the Notes and the parties executed an Extension and Amendment Agreement. This agreement extended the maturity dates on the Notes in exchange for an agreement that memorialized Plaintiffs' interests in some of Polaroid's assets and also provided for the pledge to Plaintiffs of certain intercompany notes made by Polaroid in favor of Petters Capital, LLC, Thomas Petters, Inc. and PCI.
- 81. The logic of the September 19, 2008 Polaroid trademark agreement is simple: despite the clear intention of the parties months earlier to secure Plaintiffs' loans with Polaroid stock and assets, and upon learning that Petters and his associates may have nonetheless "shopped" Polaroid to Acorn and other prospective lenders even after Ritchie had provided the funds to pay off the JPMorgan indebtedness, Plaintiffs chose the most prudent path to protect their investment. In addition to taking security interests in some notes issued by Polaroid, Ritchie, based on the enormous value of Polaroid, agreed to retain as security a prized portion of

Plaintiffs submit that RCM's investigation into their security interests in the summer of 2008 prompted Deanna Coleman to become an informant to the FBI. Thus, the due diligence exercised by Plaintiffs' employees directly led to the collapse and exposure of Petters' fraudulent activities at PCI.

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Polaroid's assets—its trademarks in Brazil, India and China—and thereby formally

memorialized the valuable collateral security interests for Plaintiffs' loans while avoiding any

costly confrontation with Acorn or other lenders who believed they had a lien on other Polaroid

assets.

82. The Extension Agreement extended the maturity date of the Notes to

December 19, 2008, and amended a variety of the terms of the note purchase agreement

governing those Notes. The Trademark Security Agreement and one of the intercompany note

pledge agreements were executed simultaneously with the execution of the Extension

Agreement, and the parties agreed to execute (and did execute on September 26, 2008) a second

intercompany note pledge agreement (the terms of which had been agreed to on September 19,

2008) was executed on September 26, 2008. These agreements resulted in the perfection of

security interests, in favor of Plaintiffs, in the following collateral, as security for the Notes: (a)

Polaroid's Brazil, China and India trademarks; and (b) intercompany promissory notes, in an

aggregate principal exceeding \$170 million, issued by Polaroid and Polaroid Consumer

Electronics LLC in favor of Petters Capital, LLC, PCI and Thomas Petters, Inc.

83. Polaroid received ample benefit in exchange for its grant of security interests from

the moment in February 2008 when the Plaintiffs wired the first \$31 million to PGW. Such

benefits continued through September 2008, and those benefits constituted reasonably equivalent

value for the granted security interests. Without limitation, those benefits included: (i) providing

the funds used to repay the JPMorgan loan in February 2008; (ii) providing funds to, on

information and belief, repay some or all of Polaroid's obligation to Acorn; and (iii) maintaining

the stability of Petters and PGW, the sole owners of Polaroid, which was essential for the

stability of Polaroid. For example, PGW was an important source of financing for Polaroid.

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84. From February 2008 through September 2008, Plaintiffs believed, based on the

data and information provided by Defendants and their co-conspirators, that Polaroid was

solvent, and had no reason to believe it was insolvent at any time. Indeed, in her sworn

testimony given at the hearing to approve the fire-sale of Polaroid, Jeffries conceded that during

the summer of 2008, Polaroid had received an offer of \$200 million for its India trademarks, and

that the offered amount reflected the fair value of those assets at that time.

F. Petters and His PCI Business Are Implicated in a Massive Fraud Scheme.

85. Unbeknownst to Plaintiffs at the time, on September 19, 2008, Judge Ann D.

Montgomery, United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, authorized the issuance

of a Search Warrant for Petters, PCI and others.

86. On September 24, 2008, federal authorities executed these Search Warrants on

Petters and others. On October 2, 2008 a federal warrant was issued for Petters' arrest. Petters

was arrested on October 3, 2008 and charged with operating a massive fraud and Ponzi scheme

at PCI, the second largest such scheme uncovered to date in United States history, second only to

that of Bernard Madoff. Petters was considered a flight risk and was therefore denied bail and

remains in custody today.

87. On December 1, 2008 the Grand Jury indicted Thomas J. Petters, PCI and PGW

(a copy of the Indictment is attached as Exhibit F) in connection with the PCI Ponzi scheme. It

is clear from the facts alleged in the Indictment that the fraud alleged in this instant Complaint

constitutes a scheme separate and apart from the alleged PCI Ponzi scheme outlined in the

Indictment.

88. According to the Indictment, funds obtained by Petters and his companies to

purportedly make wholesale purchases of merchandise were instead used to: (i) make "lulling

payments" to investors; (ii) reward individuals who participated in the scheme; (iii) fund other

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Petters businesses; and, (iv) fund "Petters' extravagant lifestyle." While the indictment names PGW as a defendant, it does not allege that any of the legitimate companies owned by PGW, such as Polaroid, were involved in Petters' criminal activities. Petters' criminal trial began on October 27, 2009.

G. Petters Engages Kelley as Corporate Counsel and Petters' Empire is Placed Into Receivership and Bankruptcy.

89. On Wednesday, September 24, 2008, members of Plaintiffs' business team traveled to Minneapolis to meet with PGW's management to discuss strategies to monetize Polaroid's and other PGW companies' assets, which they had been led to believe had significant value. Upon their arrival, Plaintiffs' team learned that the FBI had executed the Search Warrant on PCI earlier that morning, and they reported the raid to Thane Ritchie. Thane Ritchie contacted Petters that day. Petters told Ritchie that there had been no wrongdoing, that the authorities would find no evidence of wrongdoing and that he was confident about the future of the companies. Thane Ritchie was concerned about the protection of PGW's companies and Plaintiffs' creditors' rights and continued to communicate with Petters during the remainder of the week. Thane Ritchie became increasingly concerned that Petters was so distracted by the investigation that his companies were not being effectively managed. On or about September 27, 2008, Thane Ritchie proposed that Petters engage William Procida ("Procida"), an experienced workout specialist, to manage PGW to protect the value of PGW and Polaroid. Petters agreed to hire Procida.

90. Petters had good reason to be distracted by the events as they unfolded following the FBI raid. On or about September 25, 2008, Baer resigned as PGW's general counsel. Baer's

<sup>4</sup>The FBI's affidavit supporting this search warrant states that Petters' lifestyle costs are estimated as \$266,000 a month; \$3,192,000 a year.

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assistant, as well as defendant Fredrikson & Byron, also resigned. With the flight of corporate counsel in the midst of his legal crisis, Petters needed new counsel to represent his companies. Petters was referred to Kelley. On Friday, September 26, 2008, Petters and his personal attorney met with Kelley for an hour and a half over lunch to discuss retaining Kelley to represent Petters'

companies. Kelley accepted the engagement.

- 91. The next day, Saturday, September 27, 2008, Kelley entered into negotiations with the U.S. Attorney over the disposition of the assets of Petters' companies. According to Kelley, the Government stated that it would delay a forfeiture action against Petters' companies if Kelley could assure the Government that Kelley would have substantial control of those companies. Later that same Saturday, Kelley met with Petters and his personal attorney to discuss turning control of Petters' companies over to Kelley. Petters tentatively agreed and Kelley informed the U.S. Attorney of Petters' agreement.
- 92. The following day, Sunday September 28, 2008, Kelley again met with Petters and his lawyer. At that meeting Petters agreed to relinquish control of his companies to Kelley.
- 93. On September 29, 2008, Petters resigned his positions with PCI and PGW, and Kelley assumed control over Petters' companies as corporate counsel. At around the same time, the Plaintiffs filed an action in the State of Illinois Circuit Court of Cook County (the "Illinois Action") to enforce their rights against PCI and PGW. Thane Ritchie and Procida promptly flew to Minnesota and met that day with Kelley to advise Kelley of the filing of the Illinois Action and discuss a process to preserve the assets of PCI and PGW for the benefit of their creditors. Plaintiffs obtained an order in the Illinois Action freezing the assets of PCI and PGW. Although a copy of this Order was served on Kelley on September 30, 2008 but he ignored it.

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- 94. On October 2, 2008, federal authorities filed a Complaint for Permanent Injunction and Other Equitable Relief against the following individuals and entities:
  - 1. Thomas Joseph Petters dba Petters Company Inc., PCI;
  - 2. Deanna Coleman aka Deanna Munson:
  - 3. Robert White:
  - 4 James Wehmhoff;
  - 5. Larry Reynolds dba Nationwide International Resources aka NIR;
  - 6. Michael Catain dba Enchanted Buying Company;
  - 7. Frank E. Vennes Jr. dba Metro Gem Finance, Metro Gem Inc.,
    Grace Offerings of Florida LLC,
    Metro Property Financing LLC,
    38 E. Robinson, LLC,
    55 E. Pine LLC,
    Orlando Rental Pool, LLC,
    100 Pine Street Property, LLC,
    Orange Street Tower, LLC,
    2 South Orange Avenue, LLC,
    Hope Commons, LLC,
    Metro Gold, Inc.,

Notably, this Complaint did not name or seek any relief against PGW or Polaroid.

- 95. With its Complaint for Permanent Injunction and Other Equitable Relief, the Government filed an *ex parte* Motion for Temporary Restraining Order, which was granted in an order dated October 3, 2008 (the "October 3, 2008 Order") and which froze all of Petters' and PCI's assets.
- 96. The October 3, 2008 Order expressly excluded from its scope Polaroid and other PGW-operated companies by stating:
  - IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT nothing in this Temporary Restraining Order shall be construed to restrain the assets of Polaroid Corporation and its subsidiaries, Polaroid Holding Company and its subsidiaries, Zink Imaging, Inc., Zink Imaging, LLC, MN Airlines LLC dba Sun Country Airlines, Petters Aviation, LLC, MN Airline Holdings, Inc., Petters Aircraft Leasing, LLC, and/or Southwest Aviation, Inc. [at p 5].

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The October 3, 2008 Order set a hearing for October 10, 2008 to consider the ex parte TRO

affecting PCI.

97. On October 3, 2008, an order was entered in the Illinois Action appointing

Procida as Receiver over PCI's and PGW's assets (the "Illinois Receivership Order").

98. After learning of Procida's appointment as Receiver by the Illinois Court, Kelley

immediately moved to block Plaintiffs and assert undisputed control over the most-valuable

assets of PGW and its operating companies, primarily Polaroid. Over the weekend of October 4

and 5, 2008, Petters and Kelley ignored the Illinois Receivership Order and engineered

(i) Petters' transfer of control over all of Petters' companies to Kelley's law partner, Steven

Wolter, by an Irrevocable Proxy, dated October 5, 2008; (ii) the filing of a First and Second

Amended Complaint in the Federal Receivership Action, which now added to its scope PGW

and its affiliates and their assets; and (iii) a Stipulation purportedly signed by the U.S. Attorney

and Petters' attorney on October 5, 2008, authorizing the entry of a Preliminary Injunction

freezing all of Petters', PGW's and PCI's assets as well as Kelley's appointment as Receiver.

99. Despite the existence of the Illinois Court's asset-freeze order and the Illinois

Receivership Order, the Government's Amended Complaints filed on October 6, 2008 asserted

that ex parte relief was necessary to secure assets in the hands of "Defendants" in order to

prevent irreparable harm, but failed to disclose that a Receiver had already been appointed in the

Illinois Action, that Petters was in jail, and that Petters' assets, including PCI and PGW, were

already under Kelley's control.

100. On October 6, 2008, the Government and Petters' personal lawyer presented a

Stipulation to the United States District Court Judge in the federal receivership action entering a

preliminary injunction freezing PGW's assets and appointing Kelley Receiver over PCI and

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PGW. The Stipulation, which approved the form of the receivership order authorizing Kelley to

file a petition for bankruptcy relief for PGW, was not signed by PGW or any of the other Petters

entities. There is no evidence that the Amended Complaint or Stipulation were served on PGW

or any of its operating companies before the receiver was appointed. The October 6, 2008 order

approving the Stipulation was apparently obtained ex parte without a written motion or a

supporting affidavit and without the Court being informed that, on October 3, 2008, Procida had

been appointed by an Illinois State Court as Receiver for PGW and PCI.

101. PCI and PGW filed voluntary bankruptcy petitions in the United States

Bankruptcy Court in Minnesota on October 11, 2008. Kelley was later named trustee over PCI's

and PGW's bankruptcy estates.

102. The Bankruptcy Court then allowed an auction sale of Polaroid's assets and

refused to recognize Plaintiffs' security interest in Polaroid. Because of such refusal, Plaintiffs

were not permitted to "credit bid" at the sale. The Bankruptcy Court overseeing the Polaroid

estate permitted the fire sale of Polaroid's assets in April 2009, free and clear of Plaintiffs' liens,

for approximately \$88 million, even though the Defendants represented to the Ritchie executives

in February 2008 that Polaroid was worth between \$779 million and \$2 billion.

COUNT I RICO Section 1962(a)

103. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 - 102

above, and hereby incorporates same by reference, as if all were set forth fully herein.

104. This Count is against Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy.

105. The Petters' business organizations constitute an enterprise engaged in and whose

activities affect interstate commerce. The Petters companies, and PGW in particular, constitute

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or constituted legitimate businesses that have been infiltrated by criminal activity through a pattern of racketeering activity.

106. Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy and others used and laundered money from a pattern of racketeering activity in an interstate enterprise. As alleged in this Complaint, Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy and others used the representation that Plaintiffs' loans would be adequately secured with Polaroid as collateral and would be used for legitimate business activities of PGW and its operating companies, including Polaroid, to fraudulently raise funds for PGW, PCI and unknown other entities under the Petters' company umbrella.

- 107. Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy and others committed the following acts as part of a pattern of racketeering activity in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1961(5) to facilitate their conspiracy as follows:
  - (a) Transmitted or caused to be transmitted by telephone and email in interstate commerce in violation of 18 U.S.C § 1343 (wire fraud) the following information and documents in furtherance of the RICO conspiracy:
    - 1. Information soliciting interest in loaning funds to PGW secured by Polaroid in emails dated January 31, 2008 and February 1, 2008 from Johnson to Thane Ritchie.
    - 2. Wire transfer information directing Ritchie to deposit funds in accounts other than PGW accounts sent by facsimile on February 1, 2008 or communicated by telephone on or about that date.
    - 3. Information related to the solicitation of funds from Plaintiffs during the February 1, 2008 telephone conference between Ritchie, Petters and Jeffries.
    - 4. Information related to the value of Polaroid assets in emails from Chee-Awai to Thane Ritchie on February 1 and 3, 2008.
    - 5. Multiple additional interstate telephone and email communications concerning the Defendants' representations of

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value of Polaroid as collateral for Plaintiffs' loans and the use of Plaintiffs' loans made through September 2008.

- (b) Violated 18 U.S.C. § 1956 by conducting or attempting to conduct a financial transaction involving the funds received from Ritchie knowing that such funds were the proceeds of their unlawful activity (i) with the intent to promote the carrying on specified unlawful activity; or (ii) with the intent to conceal or disguise the nature, the location, the source, the ownership, or the control of the proceeds of specified unlawful activity.
- 108. Plaintiffs loaned millions of dollars to the enterprise and extended the maturity dates of such loans based on said Defendants' representations. Defendants and their co-conspirators used and invested funds obtained from Plaintiffs through Defendants' racketeering activity in the operations of the Petters companies enterprise and denied Plaintiffs the benefits of the interests granted Plaintiffs in Polaroid.
- 109. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' racketeering activities and violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1962(a), Plaintiffs have been injured in their business and property in that the Defendants conduct caused Plaintiffs to lose the valuable Polaroid security interests for which they bargained in good faith and for which ample consideration was paid.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request that this Court enter judgment against Defendants as follows:

- a. That the Court enter a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs, Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C.; Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd.; Rhone Holdings II. Ltd.; Yorkville Investments I, LLC; and Ritchie Capital Structure Arbitrage Trading, Ltd., and against the Defendants, Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy;
- b. That the Court award the Plaintiffs an amount equal to three times their damages pursuant to RICO laws;
- c. That the Court award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees and costs in bringing this action; and
- d. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just.

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# COUNT II RICO Section 1962(c)

- 110. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 102 above, and hereby incorporates same by reference, as if all were set forth fully herein.
  - 111. This Count is against Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy.
- 112. The Petters' business organizations constitute an enterprise engaged in and whose activities affect interstate commerce. The Petters companies, and PGW in particular, constitute or constituted legitimate businesses that have been infiltrated by criminal activity through a pattern of racketeering activity. Defendants were employed by or associated with the enterprise.
- 113. Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer, O'Shaughnessy and others agreed to and did conduct and participate in the conduct of the enterprise's affairs through a pattern of racketeering activity and for the unlawful purpose of intentionally defrauding Plaintiff. As alleged in this Complaint, Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer, O'Shaughnessy and others used the representation that Plaintiffs' loans would be adequately secured with Polaroid as collateral and would be used for legitimate business activities of PGW and its operating companies, including Polaroid, to fraudulently raise funds for PGW, PCI and unknown other entities under the Petters' company umbrella.
- 114. Pursuant to and in furtherance of their fraudulent scheme, Defendants committed multiple acts of fraud as part of a pattern of racketeering activity in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1961(5) to facilitate the unlawful scheme described in this Complaint and the PCI Ponzi scheme, including the following:
  - (a) Transmitted or caused to be transmitted by telephone and email in interstate commerce in violation of 18 U.S.C § 1343 (wire fraud) the following information and documents in furtherance of the RICO conspiracy:

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- 1. Information soliciting interest in loaning funds to PGW secured by Polaroid in emails dated January 31, 2008 and February 1, 2008 from Johnson to Thane Ritchie.
- 2. Wire transfer information directing Ritchie to deposit funds in accounts other than PGW accounts sent by facsimile on February 1, 2008 or communicated by telephone on or about that date.
- 3. Information related to the solicitation of funds from Plaintiffs during the February 1, 2008 telephone conference between Ritchie, Petters and Jeffries.
- 4. Information related to the value of Polaroid assets in emails from Chee-Awai to Thane Ritchie on February 1 and 3, 2008.
- 5. Multiple additional interstate telephone and email communications concerning the Defendants' representations of value of Polaroid as collateral for Plaintiffs' loans and the use of Plaintiffs' loans made through September 2008.
- (b) Violated 18 U.S.C. § 1956 by conducting or attempting to conduct a financial transaction involving the funds received from Ritchie knowing that such funds were the proceeds of their unlawful activity (i) with the intent to promote the carrying on specified unlawful activity; or (ii) with the intent to conceal or disguise the nature, the location, the source, the ownership, or the control of the proceeds of specified unlawful activity.
- 115. Plaintiffs loaned millions of dollars to the enterprise and extended the maturity dates of such loans based on Defendants' representations.
- 116. Defendants have directly and indirectly conducted and participated in the conduct of the enterprise's affairs through the pattern of racketeering and activity described above, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c).
- 117. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' racketeering activities and violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c), Plaintiffs have been injured in their business and property in that the Defendants conduct caused Plaintiffs to lose the valuable security interests in Polaroid's assets for which they bargained in good faith and for which ample consideration was paid.

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**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs request that this Court enter judgment against Defendants as follows:

- a. That the Court enter a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs, Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C.; Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd.; Rhone Holdings II. Ltd.; Yorkville Investments I, LLC; and Ritchie Capital Structure Arbitrage Trading, Ltd., and against the Defendants, Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy;
- b. That the Court award the Plaintiffs an amount equal to three times their damages pursuant to RICO laws;
- c. That the Court award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees and costs in bringing this action; and
- d. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just.

## COUNT III RICO Section 1962(d)

- 118. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 102 above, and hereby incorporates same by reference, as if all were set forth fully herein.
  - 119. This Count is against Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy.
- 120. As set forth above, the Count III Defendants agreed and conspired to violate 18 U.S.C. §§ 1962(a) (b) and (c).
- 121. Defendants have intentionally conspired with each other and their co-conspirators and agreed to directly and indirectly use or invest income that is derived from a pattern of racketeering activity in an interstate enterprise, acquire or maintain interests in the enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity, and conduct and participated in the conduct of the affairs of the enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity.
- 122. Defendants knew that each of the following predicate acts were part of a pattern of racketeering activity and agreed to the commission of those acts to further the schemes described above:

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- (a) Transmitted or caused to be transmitted by telephone and email in interstate commerce in violation of 18 U.S.C § 1343 (wire fraud) the following information and documents in furtherance of the RICO conspiracy:
  - 1. Information soliciting interest in loaning funds to PGW secured by Polaroid in emails dated January 31, 2008 and February 1, 2008 from Johnson to Thane Ritchie.
  - 2. Wire transfer information directing Ritchie to deposit funds in accounts other than PGW accounts sent by facsimile on February 1, 2008 or communicated by telephone on or about that date.
  - 3. Information related to the solicitation of funds from Plaintiffs during the February 1, 2008 telephone conference between Ritchie, Petters and Jeffries.
  - 4. Information related to the value of Polaroid assets in emails from Chee-Awai to Thane Ritchie on February 1 and 3, 2008.
  - 5. Multiple additional interstate telephone and email communications concerning the Defendants' representations of value of Polaroid as collateral for Plaintiffs' loans and the use of Plaintiffs' loans made through September 2008.
- (b) Violated 18 U.S.C. § 1956 by conducting or attempting to conduct a financial transaction involving the funds received from Ritchie knowing that such funds were the proceeds of their unlawful activity (i) with the intent to promote the carrying on specified unlawful activity; or (ii) with the intent to conceal or disguise the nature, the location, the source, the ownership, or the control of the proceeds of specified unlawful activity.
- 123. That conduct constitutes a conspiracy to violate 18 U.S.C. §§ 1962(a) and (c), in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1962(d).
- 124. Plaintiffs loaned millions of dollars to the enterprise and extended the maturity dates of such loans based on Defendants' representations. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conspiracy, the overt acts taken in furtherance of that conspiracy, and violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1962(d), Plaintiffs have been injured in their business and property in that the

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Defendants conduct caused Plaintiffs to lose the valuable Polaroid security interests for which they bargained in good faith and for which ample consideration was paid.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request that this Court enter judgment against Defendants as follows:

- a. That the Court enter a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs, Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C.; Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd.; Rhone Holdings II. Ltd.; Yorkville Investments I, LLC; and Ritchie Capital Structure Arbitrage Trading, Ltd., and against the Defendants, Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy;
- b. That the Court award the Plaintiffs an amount equal to three times their damages pursuant to RICO laws;
- c. That the Court award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees and costs in bringing this action; and
- d. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just.

# COUNT IV Common law fraud

- 125. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 107 above, and hereby incorporates same by reference, as if all were set forth fully herein.
  - 126. This Count is against Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy.
- 127. During the course of the conduct described herein Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy agreed to grant Plaintiffs a senior security interest in Polaroid in exchange for loans to benefit Polaroid. Plaintiffs relied on such Defendants' representations in loaning PGW substantial amounts of money. Notwithstanding these agreements, Defendants' and their co-conspirators' schemed to deprive Plaintiffs of the benefits of those security interests in Polaroid by fraudulently concealing (i) the release of JPMorgan's liens and the return of Polaroid's stock certificates from JPMorgan; (ii) Defendants' and their co-conspirators' plans to pledge and the pledge of Polaroid as collateral to obtain from third parties funds and other

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benefits for Polaroid, PGW and/or PCI; and (iii) the use of any of the proceeds of Plaintiffs'

loans to PGW in connection with the PCI Ponzi Scheme.

128. Despite this unlawful scheme and additional pledges of Polaroid as collateral to

third parties, Defendants and their co-conspirators continued to represent to the Plaintiffs that the

Plaintiffs' loans were adequately secured by Polaroid.

29. If Defendants had revealed that Polaroid was being encumbered by additional

third-party liens Plaintiffs would have declared their loans to PGW in default and foreclosed on

their security interests in Polaroid. However, in reliance on Defendants' and their co-

conspirators' representations to the Plaintiffs that the Plaintiffs' loans were adequately secured

by Polaroid, Plaintiffs granted additional extensions on the loans.

130. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' fraudulent conduct, Plaintiffs

have suffered injury by being denied the benefits of their security interests in Polaroid by, inter

alia, being prevented from foreclosing on their security interests in Polaroid and being prevented

from using their security interests in Polaroid to "credit bid" for Polaroid in the Polaroid

bankruptcy proceeding auction.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request that this Court enter judgment against Defendants as

follows:

That the Court enter a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs,

Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C.; Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd.; Rhone Holdings II. Ltd.; Yorkville Investments I, LLC; and Ritchie Capital Structure Arbitrage Trading, Ltd., and

against the Defendants, Petters, Coleman, Baer and

O'Shaughnessy;

That the Court award the Plaintiffs compensatory damages

in an amount to be established at trial;

c. That the Court award the Plaintiffs reasonable punitive

damages in an amount to be determined at trial;

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- d. That the Court award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees and costs in bringing this action; and
- e. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just.

# COUNT V Tortious Interference With Contract

- 131. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-107 above, and hereby incorporates same by reference, as if all were set forth fully herein.
  - 132. This Count is against Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy.
- 133. Plaintiffs entered into a valid and enforceable contract with Petters to invest millions into PGW in exchange for a security interest in PGW's most valuable asset, Polaroid.
- 134. Defendants were aware of the contractual relations between Plaintiffs and Petters and PGW.
- 135. Defendants intentionally and unjustifiably induced a breach of the contract by Petters and PGW. Indeed, these defendants acted outside any qualified privilege and acted solely for their own gain and to harm the Plaintiffs' interests. Defendants' conduct was not undertaken to further PGW's interests.
- 136. The wrongful conduct of Defendants caused a subsequent breach of the contract by Petters and PGW.
- 137. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' tortious interference with Plaintiffs' contract with Petters, Plaintiffs have been injured in their business and property in that the Defendants conduct caused Plaintiffs to lose the valuable security interests in Polaroid's assets for which they bargained in good faith and for which ample consideration was paid.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs request that this Court enter judgment against Defendants as follows:

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- a. That the Court enter a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs, Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C.; Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd.; Rhone Holdings II. Ltd.; Yorkville Investments I, LLC; and Ritchie Capital Structure Arbitrage Trading, Ltd., and against the Defendants, Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy;
- b. That the Court award the Plaintiffs compensatory damages in an amount to be established at trial;
- c. That the Court award the Plaintiffs reasonable punitive damages in an amount to be determined at trial;
- d. That the Court award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees and costs in bringing this action; and
- e. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just.

# COUNT VI Aiding And Abetting Fraud

- 138. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 107 above, and hereby incorporates same by reference, as if all were set forth fully herein.
  - 139. This Count is against Defendants Root and Fredrikson & Byron.
- 140. During the course of the conduct described herein Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy agreed to grant Plaintiffs a senior security interest in Polaroid in exchange for loans to benefit Polaroid. Plaintiffs relied on such Defendants' representations in loaning PGW substantial amounts of money. Notwithstanding these agreements, Defendants' and their co-conspirators' schemed to defraud Plaintiffs of the benefits of those security interests in Polaroid by fraudulently concealing (i) the release of JPMorgan's liens and the return of Polaroid's stock certificates from JPMorgan; (ii) Defendants' and their co-conspirators' plans to pledge and the pledge of Polaroid as collateral to obtain from third parties funds and other benefits for Polaroid, PGW and/or PCI; and (iii) the use of any of the proceeds of Plaintiffs' loans to PGW in connection with the PCI Ponzi Scheme.

### CASE 0: 112+0x/4002700-ADM-JUG cuDocoun2en 5 1 Filiad 1.02/02/42 PRage 45 fol 46

141. Defendant Fredrikson & Byron knew or acted in reckless disregard of the truth that Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy's conduct constituted fraudulent conduct.

142. Despite having such knowledge or in reckless disregard for the truth, Defendant Fredrikson & Byron substantially assisted or encouraged Defendants Petters, Coleman, Baer and O'Shaughnessy in achieving the objectives of their fraud.

143. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' assistance and encouragement Plaintiffs have been injured in their business and property in that the Defendants conduct caused Plaintiffs to lose the valuable security interests in Polaroid's assets for which they bargained in good faith and for which ample consideration was paid.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs requests that this Court enter judgment against Defendants as follows:

- a. That the Court enter a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs, Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C.; Ritchie Special Credit Investments Ltd.; Rhone Holdings II, Ltd.; Yorkville Investments I, LLC; and Ritchie Capital Structure Arbitrage Trading, Ltd., and against the Defendants, Root and Fredrikson & Byron;
- b. That the Court award the Plaintiffs compensatory damages in an amount to be established at trial;
- c. That the Court award the Plaintiffs reasonable punitive damages in an amount to be determined at trial;
- d. That the Court award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees and costs in bringing this action; and
- e. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

144. Plaintiffs demand trial by jury on all claims so triable.

## CASE 0:112+0x/-0002700-ADM-JUGcuDocoun2en51 FFided 0/2/19/2/42 PRage 1766 61746

Dated: February 1, 2012 RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., ET AL,

/s/ Philip G. Villaume

Philip G. Villaume Jeffrey D. Schiek Villaume & Schiek, P.A. 2051 Killebrew Drive, Suite 611 Bloomington, MN 55425 Phone: 952-232-1886 

# **EXHIBIT F**

Warrant alleges fraud by Petters | Minnesota Public Radio News

http://www.mprnews.org/story/2008/09/26/petters\_fraud

Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 25-6 Filed 11/13/14 Page 2 of 3

# **Warrant alleges fraud by Petters**

Martin Moylan · Minneapolis · Sep 26, 2008

**Business** 



Petters World Headquarters MPR Photo/Brandt Williams

Late Friday afternoon the federal government revealed what FBI, IRS and other federal agents were looking for Wednesday when they raided the Petters Group headquarters and Tom Petters' home.



Tom Petters Photo courtesy of Petters Group Worldwide

They were seeking evidence of a scheme to lure investors into funding a company based on tens of millions of dollars in purchases and sales that never occurred.

The unsealed documents say a witness, a woman, associated with Petters and his company came forward with documents and other information. She later wore a wire and recorded several conversations involving Petters and

Warrant alleges fraud by Petters | Minnesota Public Radio News

http://www.mprnews.org/story/2008/09/26/petters\_fraud

others who alleged baseried but who 48110. VSB Document 25-6 Filed 11/13/14 Page 3 of 3

The affidavit alleges Petters is caught on tape repeatedly admitting to the fraud scheme by providing false information to investors. He allegedly talks about fleeing the country if the scheme is discovered. The affidavit also said Petters admits to cheating on his taxes.

One alleged participant estimates the total fraud on investors exceeds \$2 billion.



Special agent Paul McCabe MPR Photo/Brandt Williams

The goal of the alleged scheme was to get the investors to provide money and financing for Petters Co. Inc.

That's the venture capital arm for several Petters enterprises. PCI is one of some 60 companies that are part of the Petters Group.

The filing said Petters used money raised through PCI for other business ventures and to support an extravagant lifestyle.

According to the affidavit, investors were given false documents that showed PCI was purchasing electronics and other merchandise from suppliers. Meanwhile, fake purchase orders showed the same merchandise was sold to stores such as Sam's Club.

Petters attorney Jon Hopeman said Petters maintains he is not guilty, and he intends to fight any charges.

An FBI spokesman said Friday night that his agency and other law enforcement authorities had no comment on the case. No arrests or charges had been filed as of last night.

Sun Country Airlines said after the raid that the investigation would have no effect on the carriers' operations.

# EXHIBIT G

Petters warrant alleges investor fraud - TwinCities.com

http://www.twincities.com/ci 10569088

# Petters warrant alleges investor fraud 1/13/14 Page 2 of 3

\$100M scammed on false documents, purchase orders

By Amy Forliti
Associated Press
POSTED: 09/27/2008 12:01:00 AM CDT

The chairman and CEO of Petters Group Worldwide and several associates allegedly schemed to defraud investors of \$100 million or more since the 1990s, according to a search warrant unsealed Friday in U.S. District Court.

The search warrant, executed Wednesday at the company's Minnetonka headquarters, contains an affidavit alleging that Tom Petters, some employees of Petters Co. Inc. and associates created fictitious documents for current and potential investors.

The affidavit said the scheme tricked more than 20 investors and investment groups that had provided more than \$100 million and perhaps "substantially more." It said a person associated with Petters and PCI had approached authorities with documents and evidence of fraud.

Jon Hopeman, an attorney for Petters, said he would not comment in detail until he read the search warrant, which was unsealed shortly before the courts closed.

"Mr. Petters denies that he did anything wrong and intends to fight," Hopeman said.

Petters did not return phone messages left at his homes in Minnesota and Colorado.

According to the affidavit, Petters lured potential investors by telling them funds would be secured by certain transactions that were actually fictitious.

Investors were given false documents that PCI was purchasing merchandise from vendors such as Nationwide International Resource, based in Los Angeles, and Enchanted Family Buying Co., based in Excelsior.

Additional purchase orders falsely said that PCI sold the same merchandise to stores such as BJ's Wholesale Club and Sam's Club.

"The purchase orders and other documents in support of the transactions are entirely fabricated," the affidavit said. "PCI does not buy merchandise from NIR or Enchanted. Nor does PCI sell merchandise as described ... Petters uses these documents to induce investors to invest money."

The affidavit said that on occasion, investors wanted to wire funds directly to NIR or Enchanted as payment for the false purchase

orders provided by Petters. The affidavit said that in those cases, officials at NIR and Enchanted had agreements with Petters to receive the funds, then send them back to Petters, minus a percentage as their compensation for their part of the scheme.

Petters Group Worldwide comprises several companies, including Sun Country Airlines, Fingerhut and Polaroid. Company spokeswoman Andrea Miller declined to comment on the contents of the warrant.

Federal officials executed search warrants for nine properties and two vehicles.

Only one search warrant, for the office of Robert White, was made public as U.S. District Court was closing Friday. White is listed in the warrant as a former PCI officer who still consults for the company.

The affidavit accuses White of making false purchase orders related to the fictitious sale of merchandise to BJ's, Sam's Club, Costco and Boscov's. Authorities also searched White's residence and two of his vehicles.

Attempts to reach White at home on Friday were unsuccessful, and his voicemail box was full.

An FBI affidavit says the witness who came forward was part of the scheme and agreed to cooperate with investigators and plead guilty to a single count of conspiracy.

The witness told investigators PCI is used by Petters for his other business ventures and "to support his extravagant lifestyle," the affidavit said.

The witness, who is not identified in the document, gave investigators a balance sheet for PCI and

Petters warrant alleges investor fraud - TwinCities.com

http://www.twincities.com/ci\_10569088

its affiliates that listed Corset Intition (34.81196) (38.81196) (

Through their investigation, authorities corroborated the witness's evidence, finding fictitious purchase orders for Wal-Mart stores or Sam's Club totaling more than \$10 million. The investigation also found \$11.6 billion in wire transfers in and out of an NIR account from January 2003 through March 2006. Specifically, from Jan. 4, 2006, through Jan 10, 2006, NIR received \$51.3 million in eight incoming wires, and the day after receiving each wire, NIR transferred the funds, less a 0.05 percent commission, to PCI, the affidavit said.

The warrant, signed by Judge Ann Montgomery, was issued on Sept. 19.

The warrant sought documents ranging from 1995 through the present.

The items seized from White's office include BlackBerrys, thumb drives, bank and other financial records, purchase orders, an \$8.5 million check from NIR to PCI and a \$1 million check from PCI to White.

The case is a joint investigation by the FBI, the IRS Criminal Investigation Division and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

Case 15-3294, Document 4<del>0, 01/29/20</del>16, 1694672, Page61 of 154 **A-221** 

Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 31 Filed 12/19/14 Page 1 of 1

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LTD., and RITCHIE SPECIAL CREDIT INVESTMENTS, LTD.,

Civil Action No. 14-cv-4819 (VSB)

Plaintiffs,

v.

COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION,

Defendant.

DECLARATION OF LEO V. LEYVA, ESQ. IN OPPSOTION TO COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION'S MOTION TO DISMISS

**LEO V. LEYVA, ESQ.**, of full age, hereby declares as follows:

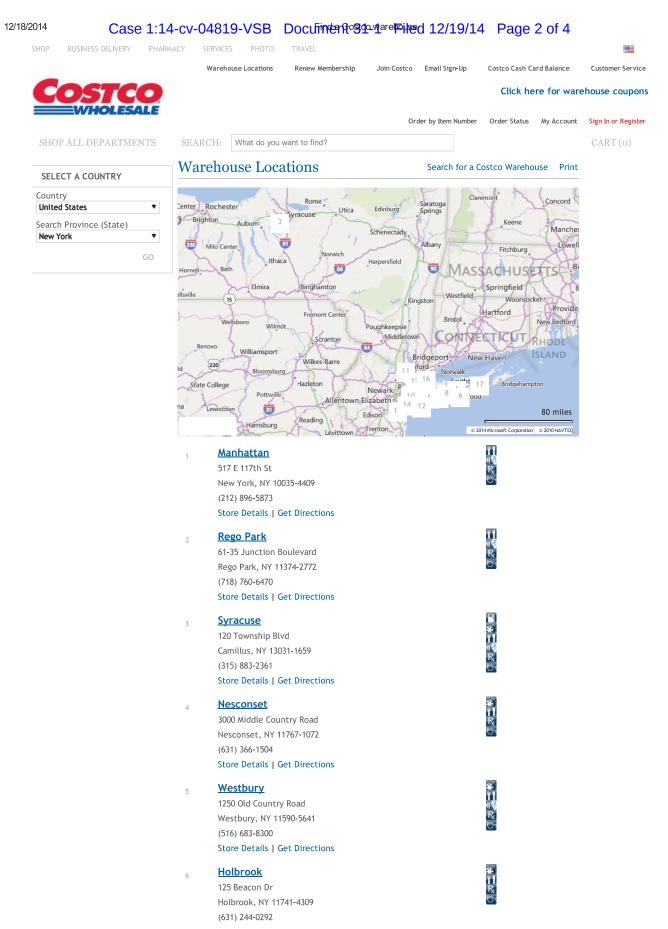
1. I am an attorney-at-law in the State of New York and a member of the firm Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, P.A., counsel for plaintiffs, Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C., Ritchie Capital Management, Ltd., and Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd. (collectively "Ritchie"). I am fully familiar with the facts set forth herein, and respectfully submit this declaration in opposition to the motion to dismiss filed by Defendant Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Costco").

- 2. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a true copy of a page from Costco's website.
- 3. Attached hereto as **Exhibit B** is a true copy of Costco's company profile.
- 4. Attached hereto as Exhibit C is a true copy of Ritchie's Complaint, filed on April9, 2014, in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York.

I declare under penalties of perjury that the foregoing information is true and accurate.

/s/ Leo V. Leyva Leo V. Leyva, Esq.

DATED: December 19, 2014 New York, New York **EXHIBIT A** 



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Store Details | Get Directions

#### Melville

625 Broadhollow Road Melville, NY 11747-5007 (631) 293-8707 Store Details | Get Directions

#### Commack

10 Garet Place Commack, NY 11725-5421 (631) 462-3900 Store Details | Get Directions

#### New Rochelle

1 Industrial Ln New Rochelle, NY 10805-1203 (914) 235-2233 Store Details | Get Directions

#### Queens

3250 Vernon Blvd Long Island City, NY 11106-4927 (718) 267-3680 Store Details | Get Directions

#### 1 Nanuet

50 Overlook Blvd Nanuet, NY 10954-5292 (845) 425-1469 Store Details | Get Directions

#### <u>Lawrence</u>

605 Rockaway Tpke Lawrence, NY 11559-1029 (516) 371-2017 Store Details | Get Directions

#### 3 Staten Island

2975 Richmond Avenue Staten Island, NY 10314-5851 (718) 982-9525 Store Details | Get Directions

#### 4 Brooklyn

976 3rd Ave Brooklyn, NY 11232-2400 (718) 965-7603 Store Details | Get Directions

#### 5 Yonkers

20 Stew Leonard Dr Yonkers, NY 10710-7204 (914) 595-1003 Store Details | Get Directions

#### Port Chester

1 Westchester Ave
Port Chester, NY 10573-4343
(914) 935-3103
Store Details | Get Directions























12/18/2014 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document of 4 Document of 12/19/14 Page 4 of 4

> 17 **Riverhead**

> > 1768 Old Country Rd Riverhead, NY 11901-3146 (631) 655-0110

Store Details | Get Directions

Volume Sales

ABOUT US MEMBERSH**I**P

Join Now

Company Information Renew Membership Investor Relations Credit Card Your Privacy Rights MY ACCOUNT

Terms and Conditions Sign in or Register Order Status Employee Site My Wish Lists Charitable Contributions

SITE MAP Product Videos

Kirkland Signature™

CUSTOMER SERVICE SERVICES Free Technical Support Locations Shipping Returns Product Info Recalls Gasoline Rebates Preventing Fraud Optical Export Sales

LOCATIONS & Locations Coming Soon Hours & Holiday Closures Author Signings Hearing Aid Center Photo Center Costco Services Special Events

THE COSTCO CONNECTION JOIN OUR COMMUNITY Current Issue Recipes The Costco Way Resources

VENDORS & SUPPLIERS Supply Chain Disclosure Ethics Hotline for Suppliers Supplier Diversity

Sign Up for Great Offers and Values from Costco.com

Sign up

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**EXHIBIT B** 

12/18/2014

Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document (প্রাণ্টিশের মূল্য মূল্য মূল্য মূল্য 12/19/14 Page 2 of 3



# **Investor Relations**

Back to costco.com

investor relations home investor overview company profile recent openings

historical highlights corporate governance and citizenship stock information financial reports SEC filings fundamentals news releases analyst coverages webcasts & presentations event calendar investor FAQs contact information



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**RSS Feeds** 



Financial Tear Sheet

# company profile

Costco Wholesale Corporation operates an international chain of membership warehouses, mainly under the "Costco Wholesale" name, that carry quality, brand name merchandise at substantially lower prices than are typically found at conventional wholesale or retail sources. The warehouses are designed to help small-tomedium-sized businesses reduce costs in purchasing for resale and for everyday business use. Individuals may also purchase for their personal needs.

Costco's warehouses present one of the largest and most exclusive product category selections to be found under a single roof. Categories include groceries, candy, appliances, television and media, automotive supplies, tires, toys, hardware, sporting goods, jewelry, watches, cameras, books, housewares, apparel, health and beauty aids, tobacco, furniture, office supplies and office equipment. Costco is known for carrying top quality national and regional brands, with 100% satisfaction guaranteed, at prices consistently below traditional wholesale or retail outlets.

Members can also shop for private label Kirkland Signature products, designed to be of equal or better quality than national brands, including juice, cookies, coffee, housewares, luggage, clothing and detergent. The Company also operates self-service gasoline stations at a number of its U.S. and Canadian locations.

Additionally, Costco Wholesale Industries, a division of the Company, operates manufacturing businesses, including special food packaging, optical laboratories, meat processing and jewelry distribution. These businesses have a common goal of providing members with high quality products at substantially lower prices.

According to Jim Sinegal, the Company's Co-Founder and Director, "Costco is able to offer lower prices and better values by eliminating virtually all the frills and costs historically associated with conventional wholesalers and retailers, including salespeople, fancy buildings, delivery, billing and accounts receivable. We run a tight operation with extremely low overhead which enables us to pass on dramatic savings to our members."

Costco is open only to members and offers three types of membership: Business, Gold Star (individual) and the Executive membership. Business members qualify by owning or operating a business, and pay an annual fee (\$55 in the U.S.) to shop for resale, business and personal use. This fee includes a household card, Business members may purchase up to six additional membership cards (\$55 each) for partners or associates in the business.

Gold Star members pay a \$55 annual fee (in the U.S.), and is available to those individuals that do not own a business. This fee includes a free household membership.

The Company also has a third membership level, called the Executive Membership. In addition to offering all of the usual benefits, it allows members to purchase a variety of discounted consumer services (auto and homeowner insurance, auto buying, mortgage, refinancing, boat and RV loans, identity protection, personal check printing, and/or business services (business phone services, merchant credit card processing, health and dental insurance, payroll services, business check and forms printing, small-business 401(k) plans, small-business web sites ) at substantially reduced rates. Executive Members also receive a 2% annual reward (up to \$750 beginning January 1, 2012) on most of their warehouse purchases. Executive Members pay an annual fee of \$110.

Costco warehouses generally are open seven days per week for all members.

Costco is a Washington corporation, publicly traded under the Nasdaq ticker symbol "COST", with its home office in Issaguah, Washington.

A more complete description of the Company and its business is contained in the Company's periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### **Key Information**

Number of warehouses: 671 (as of 11/21/14)

474 locations in 43 U.S. States & Puerto Rico: Areas of operation:

> 88 locations in nine Canadian provinces; 26 locations in the United Kingdom;

### 12/18/2014 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 31 ምም ሞነሡር 12/19/14 Page 3 of 3

10 locations in Taiwan; 11 locations in Korea; 20 locations in Japan; 7 locations in Australia;

34 locations in 18 Mexican states;

1 location in Spain

Membership Data (as of 8/31/14): 76.4 million cardholders

41.9 million households 31.6 million Gold Star 6.9 million Business

3.5 million Business add ons

Warehouse sizes: 73,000 to 205,000 square feet

(average 143,700 square feet)

Annual revenues

(FY14 - Ended 8/31/14): \$112.6 billion

Fiscal year end: Sunday closest to August 31

Number of U.S. employees: 129,000 full and part-time

Number of employees (worldwide): 189,000 full and part-time

©1998-2010 Costco Wholesale Corporation. All rights reserved.

Privacy Statement. Investor Relations. Employment Opportunities

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# EXHIBIT C

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YORK COUNTY CLERK 04/09/2014

INDEX NO. 650382/2014

NYSCEF DOC. NO. Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 31-3 Filed 12/19/14 Rage 2 Pet 32/SCEF: 04/09/2014

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK **COUNTY OF NEW YORK** 

RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LTD. and RITCHIE SPECIAL CREDIT INVESTMENTS. LTD.,

Index No.: 650382/2014

Plaintiffs,

**COMPLAINT** 

v.

COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION,

Defendant.

Plaintiffs, Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C., Ritchie Capital Management, Ltd. and Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd. (collectively, "Plaintiffs" or "Ritchie"), by their attorneys, complain against defendant, Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Defendant" or "Costco"), as follows:

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiffs bring this action against Costco for damages arising from Costco's civil conspiracy with convicted felon Thomas Petters ("Petters") to support a decade-long criminal enterprise operated by Petters and his companies. Petters and his criminal associates, including Deanna Coleman, Bob White and others, through a host of business entities including Petters Company, Inc. ("PCI"), operated one of the largest fraud schemes in history, spanning more than a decade resulting in unpaid debts to PCI's creditors of over \$3 billion. In December 2009, following a jury trial that lasted several weeks, Petters was convicted on twenty counts of fraud, money laundering and related offenses. In April 2010, Petters was sentenced to 50 years in prison and substantially all of his assets were forfeited to the United States pursuant to a forfeiture judgment in excess of \$3.5 billion.

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2. Petters' fraud scheme was based on intentional misrepresentations that Petters

was engaged in the lawful and profitable "diverting" business. With the purpose of inducing

lenders to loan money to him or his companies, Petters represented that he was able to buy brand

name consumer electronics at below wholesale prices and sell those goods at substantial profits

to discount retailers like Costco that were otherwise unable to purchase brand name merchandise

directly from major manufactures like Sony. Petters typically promised prospective lenders high

interest rates and in some cases profit-sharing in consideration for short-term purchase-money

loans to enable PCI to buy merchandise that had supposedly been pre-sold to an affiliate of

Costco named National Distributors f/k/a National Clothing ("National Distributors"), which

would in turn sell and/or deliver the goods to Costco.

3. Between 1992 and early 1998, Costco entered into a substantial business

relationship with Petters which was mutually beneficial and profitable to both parties. Costco

relied on Petters to obtain access to Sony and certain brand name consumer electronics from

manufacturers and/or suppliers that would not normally sell to discounted warehouse retailers

like Costco. Through Petters' relationship with certain manufacturers and suppliers, Petters was

able to acquire thousands of units of popular consumer electronics, at below regular wholesale

prices, to deliver to Costco. Petters provided significant benefits to Costco in its rise to

becoming a nationally recognized big-box retailer.

4. By October 2000, however, Costco acquired actual knowledge of Petters'

fraudulent use of counterfeit National Distributors purchase orders to induce lenders to loan

money to PCI or other entities controlled by Petters. On October 24, 2000, General Electric

Capital Corporation ("GECC") wrote a letter to Costco requesting verification that 14 purchase

orders purportedly issued by National Distributors between June 1, 2000 and October 1, 2000,

2

Case 15-3294, Document 40 <del>/29/20</del>16, 1694672, Page72 of 154 A-232

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were valid purchase orders and that the amounts stated therein (which exceeded \$45 million)

were then actually due and owing to PCI by National Distributors and/or Costco. Rather than

responding truthfully to GECC's request and informing GECC that the purchase orders were not

valid, or reporting PCI to the appropriate law enforcement authorities, Costco decided not to

respond and instead joined Petters' conspiracy to defraud GECC and Petters' other lenders.

To further advance the parties' agreement and to assist Petters in refinancing

approximately \$50 million owed to GECC, Costco agreed, at the request of Petters, to issue

"guaranty letters" to certain of Petters' lenders. Beginning in early 2001, Costco issued guaranty

letters to prospective lenders to Petters' companies that stated that Costco would guaranty

payment of National Distributor's obligations to Petters' companies under outstanding purchase

orders. Those guaranty letters included, without limitation, a guaranty letter dated July 2001

delivered to investment funds managed by Epsilon Investment Management LLC and Westford

Investment Management LLC ("Epsilon-Westford"), that induced lenders associated with those

funds to lend hundreds of millions of dollars to Petters and his companies purportedly to finance

the purchase of inventory that was to be sold to Costco. But for Costco's guaranty letters that

were provided to Petters' lenders, Petters and PCI would not have been able to obtain billions of

dollars of purchase-order financing loans from investment funds between January 2001 and

September 2008.

6.

On or about March 21, 2008, Plaintiffs were fraudulently induced to lend \$31

million to Petters and PCI in reliance on Petters' and PCI's false representations that the loan

proceeds would be used by PCI to purchase Sony Playstation video game consoles that had been

pre-sold to Costco for approximately \$79 million, that would be paid by Costco within 115 days

of March 21, 2008.

3

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7. At Petters' criminal trial in November 2009, the entire March 2008 Playstation purchase-order financing transaction was exposed as a complete fabrication. There were no Sony Playstations that were being purchased by PCI and resold to Costco. The testimony and documents received into evidence at Petters trial demonstrated that from as early as October 24, 2000 until at least March 2007, Costco knowingly and substantially assisted Petters in creating and perpetuating PCI's fraudulent purchase-order financing scheme, as well as providing PCI with the appearance of being a legitimate consumer electronics business through systematic misrepresentations that Petters had a long-standing and profitable business relationship with Costco in order to enable Petters to repeatedly refinance his fraudulent purchase order financing debts. As a foreseeable and direct consequence of Costco's corrupt agreement with Petters and its knowing and substantial acts in furtherance of Petters' and PCI's fraudulent purchase-order financing scheme, Plaintiffs were defrauded by Petters and PCI and have suffered damages in excess of \$31 million.

# II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 8. Venue is proper in this county because at all relevant times Costco conducted substantial business operations in New York County and because one or more of the events that gave rise to the claims set forth herein occurred in New York County.
- 9. Plaintiffs also maintained an office in New York City during the time the relevant acts and events giving rise to Plaintiffs' causes of action occurred.

#### III. PARTIES

10. Plaintiff Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C. ("RCM") is a Delaware limited liability company with an office in New York, New York.

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11. Plaintiff Ritchie Capital Management, Ltd. ("RCM Ltd.") is a Cayman Islands

exempt company with an office in the Cayman Islands.

12. Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd. ("RSCI") is a Cayman Islands exempted

company that invests in securities of for-profit corporations operating in the United States and

abroad. RSCI and RCM Ltd. are collectively, the "Ritchie Lenders."

13. Defendant Costco is, upon information and belief, a Washington corporation with

its headquarters located at 999 Lake Drive, Issaquah, Washington 98027.

IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

A. Costco Learns of Petters' Misconduct as Early as 2000.

14. During all relevant times, Petters and his companies were based in Minnesota and

conducted their operations in Minnesota. In or around March 1998, Petters and Petters Capital,

Inc. ("Petters Capital") obtained a \$50 million credit line from General Electric Capital

Corporation ("GECC"). That line of credit was used, on a deal by deal basis, to finance the

purported purchase of consumer electronics. Petters and Petters Capital falsely represented to

GECC that those goods had been sold to National Distributors, which resold the goods to Costco.

Petters Capital granted GECC a security interest in the alleged National Distributors purchase

orders.

15. Upon information and belief, with respect to each deal, Petters Capital furnished

GECC with a copy of a purchase order issued by National Distributors and granted GECC a

security interest in the National Distributors purchase order and proceeds, to secure its obligation

to repay the amount of the purchase-money loan. Upon information and belief, Costco agreed to

guaranty payment of National Distributors' obligations under the purchase orders that were

subject to a security interest in favor of GECC.

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16. In a series of 14 separate purchase-order financing transactions that occurred

between June and August 2000, Petters Capital induced GECC to make a series of loans totaling

approximately \$50 million in consideration for Petters Capital's promise to make certain

payments and grant GECC a security interest in each of the 14 separate National Distributors'

purchase orders and their proceeds to secure the loans made by GECC. In connection with each

of these separate loan transactions, Petters and his criminal associates provided GECC with

fourteen (14) purchase orders issued by National Distributors, each with a specific purchase

order, and a corresponding invoice from Petters Capital to National Distributors as representation

of the fact that Petters Capital had a right to receive payment of approximately \$50 million from

National Distributors and/or Costco on account of those purchase orders.

17. As the criminal prosecutions of Petters, Coleman, White and others revealed, the

National Distributors' purchase orders that Petters and PCI had provided to GECC between June

and October 2000, did not reflect actual sales of goods by PCI or Petters Capital to National

Distributors. Rather, those purchase orders were counterfeits that had been created by Petters

and his co-conspirators, for the purpose of fraudulently inducing lenders, including GECC, to

make loans to Petters' companies in reliance on Petters' false representations that the National

Distributors purchase orders were genuine and that Petters Capital had an enforceable right to

payment from National Distributors (which was guaranteed by Costco) which would provide the

source of funds required to repay the debts Petters Capital owed to GECC.

18. On October 23, 2000, GECC sent a letter to Costco requesting: (i) information

regarding 14 separate purchase orders purportedly issued by National Distributors between June

1, 2000 and August 9, 2000, totaling over \$50 million; and (ii) verification that the stated

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accounts were currently "open" on Costco's accounts payable system. (A true copy of the

October 23, 2000, letter from GECC to Costco is attached as Exhibit A.)

19. On or about October 23, 2000, after Costco employee Eric Hulsey discovered that

the only legitimate information regarding the 14 purchase orders identified by GECC were the

purchase order numbers (which were specific numbers that had been used by National

Distributors on purchase orders that were actually issued to other vendors), Costco contacted

Petters and obtained actual knowledge from him that someone associated with Petters Capital

had somehow obtained and used valid National Distributors purchase order numbers to

intentionally misrepresent to GECC that: (i) National Distributors had issued to Petters Capital

the purchase orders identified in the letter from GECC; and (ii) as of October 23, 2000, National

Distributors and/or Costco owed Petters Capital approximately \$50 million dollars on account of

those purchase orders.

20. Instead of responding truthfully to GECC's request for verification of those

purchase orders and informing GECC that it had been defrauded by Petters Capital, Costco

employees instead immediately contacted Petters and entered into an agreement with Petters

under which Costco agreed to assist Petters in deceiving GECC and covering up the truth

concerning the National Distributors purchase orders, as well as to assist Petters with refinancing

the substantial debts owed to GECC. As part of the consideration for entering into this

agreement for an unlawful purpose with Petters, Costco required that it be relieved of its

potential liability to GECC as the guarantor of National Distributors' obligations under those

purchase orders. Petter agreed, and further acknowledged that he and his companies would not

reveal Costco's role in assisting Petters with refinancing the substantial debts owed to GECC.

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21. At Costco's request, Petters send a letter dated October 24, 2000, addressed to

Scott Haggbloom of Costco/National, stating as follows:

The Purchase Orders listed below, I realize were never issued to Petters Company from you or from Costco/National. I deeply apologize Scott that this happened.

(A true copy of the letter dated October 24, 2000, from Petters to Costco is attached as Exhibit B.)

22. When asked at the Petters trial why he requested this letter from Petters, Costco's employee Erik Hulsey testified that he wanted confirmation that Costco would not be exposed to potential liability to GECC.

23. In furtherance of the corrupt agreement between Petters and Costco and to assist Petters in his efforts to obtain additional loans from GECC for a Petters Capital affiliate known as RedTag.Biz, sometime between November 2, 2000 and December 20, 2000, agents of Costco and/or National Distributors provided Petters with the check numbers and dates of 11 checks that had been drawn on an account in the name of National Clothing Company, Inc. ("National Clothing") in the total amount of approximately \$48 million. Each of the check numbers corresponded to checks that had actually been drawn on National Clothing's account that had cleared before December 20, 2000.

- 24. As of December 20, 2000, no one from Costco had informed GECC that the purchase orders identified in its October 23, 2000 letter to Costco were phony.
- 25. With the intent to deceiving GECC as to the legitimacy of the purchase orders that were the subject of GECC's October 23, 2000 letter to Costco and to fraudulently induce GECC to make additional loans to one of Petters companies, Petters represented to GECC that PCI had received the 11 checks from National Clothing (described in paragraph 23 above) in satisfaction

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of the account receivables from National Distributors that were the subject of GECC's October

24, 2000 request to Costco for verification of those accounts. On December 20, 2000, Petters

sent copies of those 11 checks to GECC by facsimile.

26. On October 29, 2009, Costco employee Erik Hulsey testified at the Petters trial

and was asked about payments that National Distributors had made to PCI or Petters Capital in

2000. Eric Hulsey testified that there was only one check issued to PCI or Petters Capital in the

entire year of 2000, and that was a check in the amount of \$81,418.70 that had been issued on

January 27, 2000.

27. Upon information and belief, all 11 of the National Clothing checks that Petters

transmitted to GECC on December 20, 2000, had actually been issued to payees other than PCI

and that the actual checks that had cleared the bank were issued in amounts much smaller than

the amounts set forth in the altered National Clothing checks that Petters transmitted to GECC on

December 20, 2000.

28. Petters could not have obtained copies of 11 National Clothing checks with

authentic, sequential check numbers and corresponding dates of checks that had actually cleared

the bank identified on the checks in November and December 2000, that were required to

fabricate the 11 counterfeit National Clothing checks Petters transmitted to GECC on December

20, 2000, without the knowing and substantial assistance of Costco and/or National Distributors

employees who had access to those authentic checks and check numbers.

29. Between March 2001 and March 2008, Petters, with the knowing and substantial

assistance of Costco in accordance with the agreement he made with Costco in October 2000,

repeatedly refinanced the \$50 million debt that was originally owed to GECC, using National

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Distributors purchase orders and Costco guaranty letters to fraudulently induce new lenders to provide loans to continually refinance this ever increasing debt.

- 30. The National Distributors purchase orders used to defraud lenders were explicitly identified in numerous UCC-1 financing statements that were publicly filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota between 2001 and 2008, and which were used to corroborate Petters' false representations that PCI was selling hundreds of millions of dollars of goods to National Distributors as indicated by the purchase orders described in UCC-1 financing statements including actual, valid National Distributors purchase order numbers.
- 31. Upon information and belief, Costco and National Distributors assisted Petters and his co-conspirators in obtaining actual National Distributors purchase order numbers, which Petters use to defraud PCI's lenders.
- 32. Upon information and belief, Costco continued to provide PCI with guaranty letters until at least 2006. By email dated February 14, 2007, PCI's general counsel wrote to Costco's general counsel, John Sullivan, and stated as follows:

John: I hope the new year is treating you well. It is time again to renew the Costco guaranty letter to Petters Company. I have prepared a draft of this document, which is the same as last year, with the date adjusted. Can you arrange for this to be put on Costco letterhead, executed and returned to me at the contact below.

(A true copy of the email dated February 14, 2007, is attached as Exhibit C.)

33. After being informed that Costco employee, Erik Hulsey, had requested a list of the open purchase order that would be the subject of the Costco guaranty letter, Petters sent Erik Hulsey an email on March 22, 2007 (which was copied to Costco's corporate counsel, John Sullivan), in which Petters reminded Mr. Hulsey and Mr. Sullivan of the agreement that had been made in October 2000, under which Costco had been relieved of any potential liability to GECC.

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(A true copy of Erik Hulsey's email dated March 22, 2007, in response to Petter's email dated February 14, 2007, is attached as Exhibit C.) Petters' email dated March 22, 2007, stated in pertinent part, as follows:

The issue is we finance many people from time to time in the business of diverting. If you are unaware of the issues of fraud in the past I would be happy to enlighten you directly. We suffered serious financial losses due to us taking the path that we would allow Costco to be relieved from damages they were actually liable for. You can discuss the details with John Sullivan if you are unaware.

To make a long story short, if you are not going to issue a mere guaranty letter to us, which allows us to have assurance that when we hold paper that is financing goods for National, simply tell us.

Beyond that, please give David Baer an answer today and we will act according to your decision. It is most troubling for us at this stage in a long relationship, that this letter is an issue.

(See Exhibit C.)

34. Upon information and belief, between March 22, 2007 and March 21, 2008, Costco continued to perform as agreed under its corrupt October 2000 agreement with Petters and allowed Petters to hold his companies out as having a long-standing and substantial business relationship with Costco that involved Petters' companies routinely selling millions of dollars of consumer electronic goods to Costco, even though this was very far from the truth.

- B. Relying on False Representations Regarding Costco Related Purchase Orders, Ritchie Lenders Loan Petters \$31 million in March 2008.
- 35. On March 21, 2008, with the intent to induce Plaintiffs to make a \$31 million purchase order financing loan to Petters and PCI, Petters represented that PCI was engaged in the lawful business of supplying Sony merchandise to Costco and that PCI had an opportunity to buy a large quantity of Sony Playstation video game consoles from one of its suppliers for about \$52

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million and re-sell them to Costco for approximately \$79 million. Unbeknownst to Plaintiffs, all

of Petters' representations were false when they were made to Plaintiffs.

36. In reliance on Petters' representations regarding his long-standing and profitable

relationship with Costco and his representation that the sale of the Sony Playstations to Costco

would generate a gross profit of approximately \$27 million in 115 days, Plaintiffs agreed to loan

\$31 million to Petters and PCI to enable PCI to pay the balance of the purchase price payable to

the vendor that was purportedly selling the goods to PCI that would be resold to Costco.

37. During the period from 2000 through early 2008, Costco's issuance of the

guaranty letters and other knowing and substantial assistance to PCI's fraudulent purchase-order

loan scheme were a major reason that PCI's diverting business appeared to have achieved

significant scale and success, and it was this scale and success, along with Petters'

representations regarding the sale of Sony Playstations to Costco, that the Ritchie Lenders relied

upon in determining to advance the \$31 million loan to PCI and Petters. Without the knowingly

fraudulent conduct of Costco, PCI's diverting business could not have succeeded for almost a

decade, during which time hundreds of millions of dollars of fraudulent transactions were

conducted and hundreds of millions (including at least \$31 million of the Ritchie Lenders'

money) were lost by unknowing and unsuspecting lenders who relied upon PCI's purported (and

fictitious) business relationship with Costco.

38. In or around March 21, 2008, the Ritchie Lenders were fraudulently induced to

lend \$31 million to Petters and PCI in order to enable PCI to purchase 232,500 Sony Playstations

that were (or so Ritchie was told) to be purchased by PCI, then sold to uBid (a Chicago-based

company in which Petters held a substantial ownership interest and which served as an on-line

auctioneer of electronic merchandise) and then finally sold by uBid to Costco.

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39. Petters and his associates provided Ritchie with a fraudulent purchase order and a

related invoice for PCI's \$52 million purchase of the Sony Playstations from Nationwide

International Resources ("Nationwide"), the shell company controlled by Larry Reynolds that

was used for over a decade as part of Petters' fraud. uBid provided another purchase order

corroborating Petters false representation that uBid would then buy the Sony Playstations from

PCI for over \$79 million in conjunction with the ultimate sale to Costco, purportedly generating

a \$27 million profit.

40. As it turns out, there were no Sony Playstations and both the PCI and uBid

purchase orders were fakes. Those documents had been prepared solely to induce the Ritchie

Lenders to loan \$31 million to PCI and Petters and to convince the Ritchie Lenders (who with

their affiliates had loaned over \$146 million to Petters and another of his entities) that Petters'

businesses including PCI's diverting business were thriving and profitable. Under the terms of

the executed transaction documents, PCI and Petters agreed that: (i) PCI would contribute \$21

million of the purchase price for the initial purchase of the Sony Playstations from Nationwide;

(ii) all purchasers of the Playstations, including Costco, would be instructed to make their

payments for the Playstations into a new, separate bank account (the "Playstations Account") at a

mutually satisfactory bank ("Bank"); and (iii) PCI, the Ritchie Lenders and the Bank would enter

into a customary deposit account control agreement pursuant to which the Playstations Account,

and the funds contained therein, would be subject to a perfected security interest in favor of the

Ritchie Lenders.

41. Between October 2002 and March 2008, affiliates of Ritchie invested an

aggregate of approximately \$75 million in Colossus Capital Fund, Ltd. and Lancelot Investors

Fund, Ltd. (collectively, "Lancelot") which entities made hundreds of millions of dollars of

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purchase-order financing loans to companies owned or controlled by Petters including, but not

limited to, Thousand Lakes, LLC ("Thousand Lakes").

42. During the years 2003 through March 2008, Petters continuously represented to

the managers of Lancelot, and indirectly to Lancelot's investors including Ritchie and its

affiliates, that Petters and his companies were engaged in considerable business with Costco and

that Petters obtained millions of dollars of purchase order financing (secured by Costco purchase

orders and accounts receivable) from Lancelot. Upon information and belief, Costco provided

Lancelot with guaranty letters to support Petters' representations to lenders that he and his

companies were conducting substantial business with Costco.

43. By October 2007, approximately 95% of the Petters purchase order financing

loans made by Lancelot were secured by National Distributors purchase orders and from time to

time before October 2007, Lancelot was loaning Petters-controlled companies between \$30 and

\$40 million per week which Petters had represented would enable Thousand Lakes to purchase

consumer electronics for resale to National Distributors under purchase orders that were

guaranteed by Costco. As an investor in Lancelot, Ritchie received and relied on copies of

National Distributors purchase orders.

44. In loaning \$31 million to PCI and Petters on or about March 21, 2008, in

connection with the Playstations purchase order financing transaction, the Ritchie Lenders

reasonably relied on Petters' representations to Lancelot and Ritchie regarding his long-standing

and profitable diverting business relationship with Costco. Ritchie relied on the materials it

received from Lancelot in connection with its decision to provide loans to Petters and PCI. But

for Costco's substantial assistance in furtherance of Petters' fraudulent scheme which allowed

Petters to expand his criminal enterprise and induce more lenders to provide substantial loans to

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Petters' companies through 2008, the Ritchie Lenders would not have advanced the loans to PCI and Petters in March 2008.

C. Petters' Diverting Business is Exposed as a Fraudulent Ponzi Scheme.

45. On or about September 24, 2008, agents from the FBI, the IRS and other federal agencies, along with local law enforcement agencies, executed search warrants on the headquarters of PCI and on Petters' personal residence.

46. To obtain the search warrants, the FBI filed an affidavit ("FBI Affidavit") detailing the information that their then on-going investigation of Petters and the Conspirators had revealed. The FBI Affidavit revealed the following information:

- a. "PCI is the venture capital arm of numerous PETTERS enterprises. The money raised by PETTERS through PCI is used by PETTERS for his other business ventures and to support his extravagant lifestyle." (FBI Affidavit, ¶7(a).)
- b. "PETTERS solicited investors to invest substantial sums in PCI. To induce investors to invest, the investors were advised funds would be secured by transactions (which were fictitious). Investors were then provided with false documents relating to purchase and resale of merchandise. The fraudulent documents purport to evidence PCI purchasing merchandise from vendors... Additional purchase orders falsely detail PCI's sale of the same merchandise to [retail] stores..." (*Id.*, ¶7(c).)
- c. The purchase orders and other documents in support of the transactions are entirely fabricated. PCI does not buy any merchandise from [the

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vendors]. Nor does PCI sell merchandise as described in the purchase orders [to retailers]. PETTERS uses these documents to induce investors to invest money." (Id.,  $\P$  7(d).)

- 47. The FBI Affidavit also sets forth information gathered from recordings of conversations among the participants in Petters' fraudulent scheme. "In September 2008, the government obtained consensually monitored conversations involving PETTERS, DEANNA COLEMAN, ROBERT WHITE ... and other persons." (FBI Aff'd., ¶ 12.) As set forth below, those conversations revealed, among other things, that Petters was fully aware of, and was conducting, the fraud, and indicated an intent to flee the country if the fraud were revealed:
  - a. "In these recordings, PETTERS readily admits executing he fraud scheme by providing fraudulent information to investors. PETTERS repeatedly discusses the stressed financial condition of the company, as well as the need for more capital. PETTERS continues to ask [COLEMAN] to prepare false documents, noting that he doesn't know what choice they have. PETTERS talks about fleeing the country and creating fabricated defenses if the fraud is discovered." (*Id.*, ¶ 12(a).)
  - b. "PETTERS states that [one Conspirator] told PETTERS that they are 'a little paper manufacturing plant.' On one occasion, PETTERS states that he and [that participant] would be jointly implicated in a scheme to defraud investors out of \$130 million." (*Id.*, ¶ 12(b).)
  - c. Another participant "describes the scheme as a 'Ponzi scheme,' and estimates that at least \$100 million of PCI's debt is fraudulent." (Id., ¶ 12(c).).

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d. A participant "asks that COLEMAN prepare purchase orders to be submitted to investors so that the investors will extend the due dates on

debt." (*Id.*, ¶ 12(d).)

e. A participant "admits that PETTERS told him about the fake purchase

orders, and that [the participant] has known about this for many years.

[The participant] estimates the amount of the fraud as in excess of \$2

billion." (*Id.*, ¶12(f).)

48. Petters could not have perpetrated his multi-billion dollar fraudulent purchase

order financing scheme for over a decade without Costco's knowing and substantial assistance

and agreement to provide purchase order numbers and guaranty letters when requested by Petters

to support his representations to lenders that he and his companies were conducting substantial

diverting business with Costco. Many sophisticated commercial lenders including GECC,

Epsilon-Westford, Lancelot and Ritchie relied on Petters' representations that he had a long-

standing business relationship with Costco.

49. From at least 1998, through 2004, Petters had a long-standing business

relationship with Robert Pugmire ("Pugmire"), Executive Vice President and General

Merchandise Manager of Costco. Pugmire often attended the annual Consumer Electronics

Show ("CES") in Las Vegas, Nevada and would spend substantial time with Petters at the CES

where he would visit Petters' hospitality suite.

50. Pugmire knew that Petters was making representations to GECC and other lenders

that he was doing millions of dollars worth of diverting business with Costco. By early March

1998, Costco relied on Petters to obtain access to certain brand name consumer electronics from

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manufacturers and/or suppliers that would not normally sell their products to discount warehouse

retailers like Costco.

51. Despite having the opportunity to reveal Petters' fraudulent scheme to GECC and

other lenders that were relying on Petters' representations, Costco agreed, in consideration for

being relieved of contingent liability of almost \$50 million that may have been asserted by

GECC against Costco as the guarantor of National Distributor's obligations under those purchase

orders, not to respond truthfully to GECC's October 23, 2000 request for accounts receivable

verification.

52. Despite gaining actual knowledge of Petters' fraud scheme in October 2000,

while knowing that it was doing minimal business with Petters, Costco continued for at least

seven (7) years after its discovery of the fraud to issue guaranty letters and allowed Petters to use

the Costco name and Petters' long-standing relationship with Costco and National Distributors as

wrongful means of fraudulently inducing lenders, including Lancelot, to lend billions of dollars

to Petters and his entities.

53. But for Costco's decision to enter into a corrupt agreement with Petters and

Costco's agreement to provide guaranty letters to perpetuate his criminal enterprise, when

Costco knew that Petters was exaggerating and/or fabricating the amount of business that PCI

was doing with Costco, Petters would not have been able to exponentially expand his fraud and

money-laundering scheme.

54. As a proximate consequence of Costco's aiding and abetting and its substantial

assistance in furtherance of Petters' fraudulent scheme, Plaintiffs have suffered substantial

damages in excess of \$31 million.

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COUNT I
(Aiding and Abetting Fraud)

55. Plaintiffs restate each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs,

and hereby incorporate same by reference, as if all were set forth fully herein.

56. By October 2000, Costco was well aware of Petters' fraudulent purchase-order

financing scheme. Specifically, Costco had actual knowledge that Petters was representing to

lenders that he and his companies were conducting many millions of dollars of business with

Costco, contrary to the reality that Costco had conducted a total of only approximately \$80,000

of business with Petters in 2000. Costco also knew that Petters needed to make these false

representations to those lenders that agreed to provide Petters with the financing necessary to

repay amounts owed under Petters Capital's \$50 million credit line with GECC.

57. In fact, when Costco told Petters on October 24, 2000, that GECC had contacted

Costco to verify Costco's purchase orders to PCI, Petters admitted that the purchase orders were

phony and requested Costco to stand down and to allow Petters to address the purchase order

issues directly with GECC. In consideration for receiving a secret letter from Petters

acknowledging that those purchase orders did not exist, Costco granted Petters' request not to

respond to GECC's letter and allowed Petters to communicate directly with GECC in order to

deceive GECC as to the facts regarding Petters Capital's purported right to receive payment from

Costco under certain outstanding National Distributors purchase orders.

58. Rather than exposing the fraudulent purchase-order financing scheme, Costco

provided substantial assistance in the advancement and achievement of the fraud. To assist

Petters with obtaining loans to refinance Petters Capital's debts to GECC, Costco agreed to issue

guaranty letters to certain lenders at the request of Petters and/or his companies. For example, in

2001, Costco issued a guaranty letter to Epsilon-Westford to induce it to loan money to Petters

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so that he could use those funds to repay the \$50 million credit line to GECC. Costco continued

to issue guaranty letters to various lenders at least through 2007, to support Petters' nefarious

conduct with respect to his lenders and to induce those lenders to provide financing to Petters.

59. During the period from 2000 through early 2008, Costco's issuance of the

guaranty letters and other knowing and substantial assistance to PCI's fraudulent purchase-order

loan scheme were a major reason that PCI's purported diverting business appeared to have

achieved significant scale and success, and it was this scale and success, along with Petters'

representations regarding the sale of Sony Playstations to Costco, that the Ritchie Lenders relied

upon in determining to advance the \$31 million loan to PCI and Petters.

60. Without the knowingly fraudulent conduct of Costco, PCI's diverting business

could not have succeeded for almost a decade, during which time hundreds of millions of dollars

of fraudulent transactions were conducted and hundreds of millions (including at least \$31

million of the Ritchie Lenders' money) were lost by unknowing and unsuspecting lenders who

relied upon PCI's purported (and fictitious) business relationship with Costco.

61. As a proximate cause of Costco's aiding and abetting of Petters' fraudulent

scheme, Plaintiffs suffered damages in excess of \$31 million.

COUNT II
(Civil Conspiracy)

62. Plaintiffs restate each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs,

and hereby incorporate same by reference, as if all were set forth fully herein.

63. Petters and PCI knowingly communicated false and fraudulent information to

Plaintiffs to induce them to fund loans to Petters and PCI. These fraudulent representations,

including that Petters' diverting business was a lawful and profitable enterprise which conducted

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substantial diverting business with Costco, were made to Plaintiffs in March 2008 in connection

with the \$31 million loan transaction.

64. To persuade the Ritchie Lenders to provide \$31 million in financing to Petters and

PCI, Petters further represented to Plaintiffs that PCI would use the loan proceeds, together with

\$21 million of its own money, to purchase 232,500 Sony Playstations that would (or so Plaintiffs

were told) then be sold to uBid, and then finally sold by uBid to Costco as part of a diverting

business transaction.

65. By early 2000, Costco and Petters had a diverting business relationship which was

mutually beneficial and profitable to both parties. Pursuant to the parties' agreement, Petters

agreed to acquire and deliver to Costco certain consumer electronics requested by Costco which

it could not obtain from manufacturers and suppliers.

66. Upon information and belief, Costco often provided a "shopping list" to Petters of

those products (and the number of units) that Costco could not directly obtain from

manufacturers and/or suppliers. Costco agreed to pay Petters a negotiated price for those

products that Petters acquired from manufacturers and/or suppliers to deliver to Costco. In the

ordinary course of its diverting business activity, Costco used a wholly owned affiliate known as

National Distributors, to issue the purchase orders to Petters.

67. By October 2000, Costco was well aware that Petters was representing to lenders

that he and his companies were conducting substantial business in excess of \$47 million with

Costco during the year 2000, contrary to the reality that Costco had conducted a total of

approximately \$80,000 of business with Petters in 2000. Costco knew that Petters needed to

make these representations to those lenders that agreed to provide the financing to enable Petters

to repay amounts owed under Petters Capital's \$50 million credit line with GECC.

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68. In fact, when Costco told Petters on October 24, 2000 that GECC had contacted

Costco to verify Costco's purchase orders to PCI, Petters admitted that the purchase orders were

phony and requested Costco to stand down and to allow Petters to address the purchase order

issues directly with GECC. In consideration for receiving a secret letter from Petters

acknowledging that those purchase orders did not exist, Costco granted Petters' request not to

respond to GECC's letter and allowed Petters to communicate directly with GECC in order to

deceive GECC as to the facts regarding Petters Capital's purported right to receive payment from

Costco under certain outstanding National Distributors purchase orders.

69. To further advance the parties' agreement and diverting business relationship, and

to assist Petters with obtaining loans to refinance Petters Capital's debts to GECC, Costco agreed

that it would issue guaranty letters to certain lenders at the request of Petters and/or his

companies. For example, in 2001, Costco issued a guaranty letter to Epsilon-Westford to induce

it to loan money to Petters so that he could use those funds to repay the \$50 million credit line to

GECC. Costco continued to issue guaranty letter to various lenders at least through 2007, to

support Petters' nefarious conduct with respect to his lenders and to induce those lenders to

provide financing to Petters.

70. Upon information and belief, in consideration for Costco's agreement to issue

guaranty letters and other accommodations and favors requested by Petters to support his

criminal enterprise, Petters made substantial cash payments to senior purchasing agents at

National Distributors and/or Costco.

71. As a result of the conspiracy perpetrated by Petters and Costco, and the overt acts

committed by Costco in furtherance of the conspiracy, Plaintiffs suffered damages in excess of

\$31 million.

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72. After joining the conspiracy to commit fraud in October 2000, Costco failed to withdraw or abandon, or take any actions to disavow or defeat the conspiratorial objectives.

*WHEREFORE*, Plaintiffs request that this Court enter judgment against defendant Costco Wholesale Corporation, on the First and Second Counts, as follows:

- a. That the Court award Plaintiffs compensatory and consequential damages
   in an amount to be established at trial;
- b. That the Court award Plaintiffs punitive damages in an amount to be determined at trial;
- That the Court award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees and costs incurred in connection with this action; and
- d. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable under the circumstances.

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Fax:

DATED: New York, New York April 9, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

COLE, SCHOTZ, MEISEL FORMAN & LEONARD, P.A.

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# **EXHIBIT** A

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GE Capital

October 23, 2000

Commercial Finance
A unit of General Electric Capital Corporation
10 % LeSalle Street, Suite 2800, Chicago, IL 60603 312 419-0985

Bob Pugmire Executive Vice President - GMM National Distributors - Costco Companies, Inc. 999 Lake Drive Issaquah, WA 98027

Dear Mr. Pugmire:

For auditing purposes, please advise whether the items listed below, sold to you by Petters Company, Inc. Petters Capital, Inc. are currently unpaid in your accounts payable system. If any of the items have been settled aither pertially or fully as of October 23, 2000, please note the date of settlement, the amount of the settlement and the nature of the settlement (whether by check/wire transfer, oredit memo, etc.) under the Pennsylva conton harden agents. the Remarks section below.

When complete, please sign and return promptly via fax to (312) 419-5957.

Purchase Order Number	Purchase Order Date	Luvoice Date	Invoice Due Date	Amount	Remarks
00-198017	6/1/00	6/19/00	8/19/00	\$6,476,885,60	
00-198143	6/2/00	6/25/00	8/26/00	4,976,000.00	
00-198168	6/2/00	6/26/00	8/26/00	3,827,862.00	
00-198210	6/5/00	6/26/00	8/26/00	4,092,135.33	
00-198211	6/5/00	6/26/00	8/26/00	2,483,195,45	
00-198618	6/14/00	7/4/00	9/4/00	2,154,282,00	
00-199505	7/24/00	8/13/00	10/13/00	2,701,627,20	
00-199193	7/18/00	1/9/00	10/9/00	2,807,312.00	
00-199501	7/24/00	8/13/00	10/13/00	6,637,059.00	
00-199592	7/26/00	8/17/00	10/17/00	6,206,200,00	
00-199605	7/26/00	8/20/00	10/20/00	6,249,685,20	
00-199801	8/7/00	8/11/00	10/11/00	1,431,828.00	
00-199982	1/9/00	8/18/00	10/11/00	7,425,749.80	
00-199917	1/9/00	8/18/00	10/18/00	2,145,337.00	

The information above agrees with National Distributors - Costoo Companies, Inc.'s records as of October 23, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

Signed By:	Title:	Date:						
If you have any questions, feel free to call Jack Morrone at (312) 419-5578.								
Thank you for your assistance.	a*							

Jack F. Morron **Associate** 

GE Capital Commercial Finance, Inc.

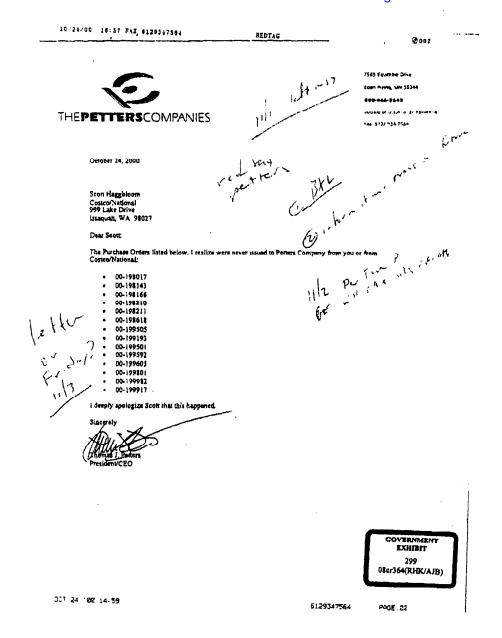
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<del>-01/29/20</del>16, 1694672, Page96 of 154 **A-256** Case 15-3294, Document 40

INDEX NO. 650382/2014

# **EXHIBIT B**

# Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 31-3 Filed 12/19/14 Page 29 of 32



0299.0001

<del>01/29/20</del>16, 1694672, Page98 of 154 **A-258** Case 15-3294, Document 40

INDEX NO. 650382/2014

# EXHIBIT C

Case 15-3294, Document 40 <del>01/29/20</del>16, 1694672, Page99 of 154

# Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 31-3 Filed 12/19/14 Page 31 of 32

From: Petters, Tom

Thu, 22 Mar 2007 17:22:31 GMT Sent: To:

Baer, David; 'ehulsey@costco.com' CC: Munson, Deanna; 'JSullivan@costco.com'

Subject: Re: guaranty letter

Erik,
We have no open purchase orders with National, only Costco Canada and Maxico and that is through a company we own
"Polaroid which is independent" from this business.

The issue is we finance many people from time to time in the business of diverting. If you are unaware of the issues of fraud in the past I would be happy to enlighten you directly. We suffered serious financial loanes due to us taking the path that we would allow Costoo to be relieved from damages they were actually liable for. You can discuss the details on this with John

To make a long story short, if you are not going to issue us a mere guaranty letter to us, which allows us to have some assurance that when we hold paper that is francing goods for National, simply tell us.

If you are asking for disclosure of deals we are directly holding, "non-existent" however through our lending agreements with others in the case of a default, we are able to use this guaranty as a safety mechanism.

Beyond that, please give David Baer an answer today and we will act according to your decision. Its most troubling for us at this stage in a long realtionship, that this letter is an issue.

Thank you for your time.

Tom Petters

---- Original Message ---From: Baer, David
To: Erik Hulsey' echulasy@costoc.com>
Co: Petters, Tom; Munson, Deanna; John Sullivan (JSullivan@costoc.com) <JSullivan@costoc.com>
Sent: Thu Mar 22, 11-09-54, 2007
Subject: RE: guaranty letter

Please see attached email correspondence for an explanation.

Is there a problem? We really need to get this squared away ASAP.

Thanks very much.

Dave

-----Original Message----From: Erik Hulsey [mailto:ehulsey@costco.com]
Sens: Thursday, March 22, 2007 10:54 AM
To: Beer, David
Subject: guaranty letter

David:

1208665 03/22/2007 17:22:31 (GMT -06.00)

COVERNMENT 27Y BHIGHRHK/AJB)

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# Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 31-3 Filed 12/19/14 Page 32 of 32

I don't see any open orders for Petters. Please provide me with a list of the open purchase orders.

Thanks

Erik Hulsey Manager - National/CWC Ph 425-313-6372 / Fax 425-313-2806

From: Beer, David
Sen: Wednesday, February 14, 2007 1:14 PM
To: John Sullivan (JSullivan@costco.com)
CC: Petters, Tom: Munson, Deanna
Subject: Costco Guaranty Letter

John:

I hope the new year is treating you well. It is time again to renew the Costoo guaranty letter to Petters Company. We have prepared a draft of this document, which is the same as the one executed last year, with the date adjusted for this year.

Can you please arrange for this to be put on Costco letterhead, executed and returned to me at the contact information below.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.
Thanks.
Dave
David Baer
Chief Legal Officer
Petters Group Worldwide
4400 Baker Road
Minnetonka, MN 55343
Email: david.baer@pettersgroup.com

Erik Hulsey Manager - National/CWC Ph 425-313-6372 / Fax 425-313-2806

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## Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 35 Filed 01/16/15 Page 1 of 2

FRIED, FRANK, HARRIS, SHRIVER & JACOBSON LLP
Gregg L. Weiner
Adam M. Harris
One New York Plaza
New York, New York 10004-1980
(212) 859-8000

Attorneys for Defendant

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., RITCHIECAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LTD., and RITCHIE SPECIAL CREDIT INVESTMENTS, LTD.,

Plaintiffs,

- against -

COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION,

Defendant.

14-cv-4819 (VSB)

REPLY DECLARATION OF ADAM M. HARRIS IN FURTHER SUPPORT OF COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION'S MOTION TO DISMISS THE FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

ADAM M. HARRIS declares pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 as follows:

- I am a member of the Bar of this Court and am associated with the law firm Fried,
   Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP, attorneys for defendant Costco Wholesale Corporation
   ("Costco") in the above-captioned action.
- I submit this declaration in further support of Costco's motion to dismiss the First
   Amended Complaint.
- 3. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of pages from Costco's website listing the number and location of Costco stores (as of Jan. 16, 2015) in each of the sixteen U.S. states in which Costco has 10 or more stores, as follows: California (120 stores); Washington (29 stores); Texas (25 stores); Florida (22 stores); Illinois (19 stores); Arizona (18 stores); New York

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# Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 35 Filed 01/16/15 Page 2 of 2

(17 stores); New Jersey (16 stores); Virginia (16 stores); Colorado (13 stores); Michigan (13 stores); Oregon (13 stores); Georgia (11 stores); Utah (11 stores); Maryland (10 stores); and Pennsylvania (10 stores).

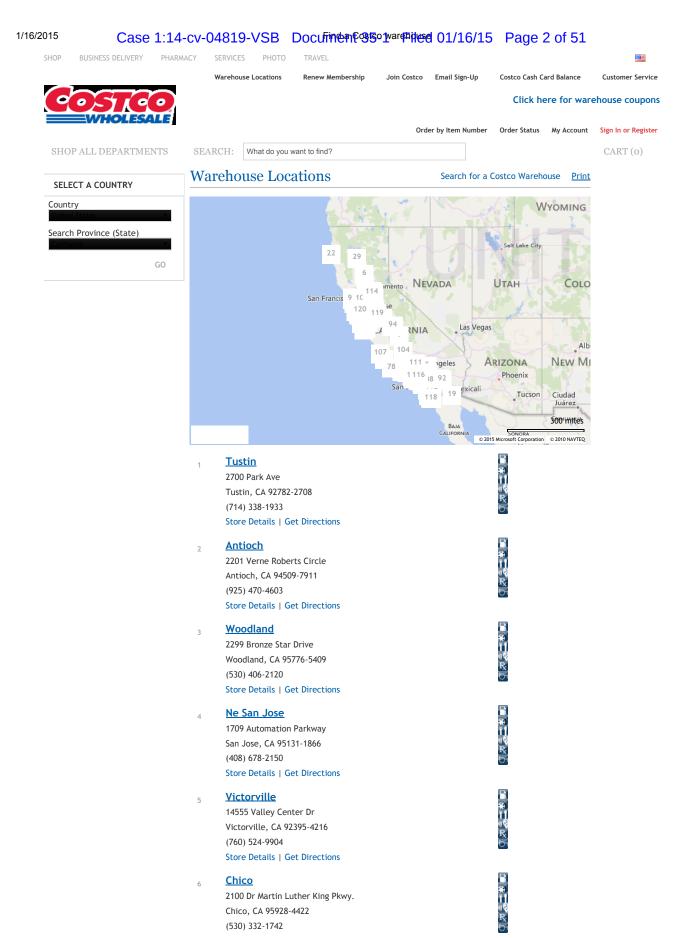
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: New York, New York January 16, 2015

Adam M. Harris adam.harris@friedfrank.com

Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document 35-1 Filed 01/16/15 Page 1 of 51

# Exhibit A



#### 1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Docutinent 950 1 var third 01/16/15 Page 3 of 51

Store Details | Get Directions

# San Dimas 520 N Lone Hill Ave San Dimas, CA 91773-1725 (909) 962-5507 Store Details | Get Directions

#### **Visalia**

1405 W Cameron Ave Visalia, CA 93277-9527 (559) 735-2400 Store Details | Get Directions

## **Manteca**

2440 Daniels St Manteca, CA 95336-6745 (209) 825-8200 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Redwood City**

2300 Middlefield Rd Redwood City, CA 94063-2854 (650) 568-4040 Store Details | Get Directions

#### Lakewood

340 Lakewood Center Mall Lakewood, CA 90712-2409 (562) 295-1508 Store Details | Get Directions

# **Hayward**

28505 Hesperian Blvd Hayward, CA 94545-5008 (510) 921-3126 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Pacoima**

13550 Paxton St Pacoima, CA 91331-2352 (818) 272-2700 Store Details | Get Directions

#### San Marcos

725 Center Dr San Marcos, CA 92069 (760) 871-6867 Store Details | Get Directions

2680 Reynolds Ranch Parkway Lodi, CA 95240 (209) 366-7300 Store Details | Get Directions

#### **Huntington Beach**

7562 Center Ave Huntington Beach, CA 92647 (714) 372-7510 Store Details | Get Directions































1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Docurnen@@o1var@nleed 01/16/15 Page 4 of 51 Westlake Village 5700 Lindero Canyon Road Westlake Village, CA 91362-4063 (818) 597-3901 Store Details | Get Directions San Leandro 1900 Davis Street San Leandro, CA 94577-1209 (510) 562-6708 Store Details | Get Directions El Centro 2030 N Imperial Ave El Centro, CA 92243-1323 (760) 353-2380 Store Details | Get Directions **Tustin Ranch** 2655 El Camino Real Tustin, CA 92782-8918 (714) 838-7895 Store Details | Get Directions <u>Vista</u> 1755 Hacienda Dr Vista, CA 92081-4546 (760) 631-7255 Store Details | Get Directions <u>Eureka</u> 1006 West Wabash Avenue Eureka, CA 95501-2121 (707) 441-8750 Store Details | Get Directions **Garden Grove** 11000 Garden Grove Blvd Garden Grove, CA 92843-1206 (714) 638-6308 Store Details | Get Directions Simi Valley 2660 Park Center Drive Simi Valley, CA 93065-6207 (805) 578-3301 Store Details | Get Directions Santa Clara 1601 Coleman Avenue Santa Clara, CA 95050-3100 (408) 567-9000 Store Details | Get Directions Los Feliz 2901 Los Feliz Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90039-1502

(323) 644-5201

Sand City 801 Tioga Ave

Store Details | Get Directions

# 1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Docutinent 950 1 var third 01/16/15 Page 5 of 51 SandCity, CA 93955-3051 (831) 899-1255 Store Details | Get Directions <u>Vallejo</u> 198 Plaza Drive Vallejo, CA 94591-3702 (707) 553-6400 Store Details | Get Directions Redding 1300 Dana Drive Redding, CA 96003-4071 (530) 222-0199 Store Details | Get Directions **Clovis** 380 West Ashlan Avenue Clovis, CA 93612-5611 (559) 291-3377 Store Details | Get Directions **Novato** 300 Vintage Way Novato, CA 94945-5007 (415) 899-1332 Store Details | Get Directions Merced 1445 R Street Merced, CA 95340-5850 (209) 725-5020 Store Details | Get Directions **Mountain View** 1000 N Rengstorff Ave Mountain View, CA 94043-1716 (650) 988-1841 Store Details | Get Directions San Francisco 450 10th Street San Francisco, CA 94103-4304 (415) 626-4388 Store Details | Get Directions **Livermore** 2800 Independence Drive Livermore, CA 94550-7628 (925) 443-6306 Store Details | Get Directions **Foster City** 1001 Metro Center Boulevard Foster City, CA 94404-2177 (650) 286-0739 Store Details | Get Directions San Jose 37

2201 Senter Road San Jose, CA 95112-2627 (408) 275-0199

#### 1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Docutinent 950 1 var third 01/16/15 Page 6 of 51

Store Details | Get Directions

# Santa Cruz

220 Sylvania Avenue Santa Cruz, CA 95060-2161 (831) 469-0961

Store Details | Get Directions

#### **Danville**

3150 Fostoria Way Danville, CA 94526-5553 (925) 277-0407

Store Details | Get Directions

#### Santa Maria

1335 S Bradley Rd Santa Maria, CA 93454-8006 (805) 928-8459 Store Details | Get Directions

#### Laguna Niguel

27972 Cabot Road Laguna Niguel, CA 92677-1211 (949) 364-0217 Store Details | Get Directions

### Roseville Ca

6750 Stanford Ranch Road Roseville, CA 95678-1907 (916) 789-1485 Store Details | Get Directions

#### **Fresno**

4500 W Shaw Fresno, CA 93722-6200 (559) 271-6511 Store Details | Get Directions

# **Stockton**

1616 East Hammer Lane Stockton, CA 95210-4119 (209) 478-2040 Store Details | Get Directions

#### <u>Morena</u>

4605 Morena Blvd San Diego, CA 92117-3650 (858) 270-6920 Store Details | Get Directions

#### <u>Santee</u>

101 Town Center Pkwy Santee, CA 92071-5899 (619) 562-3227 Store Details | Get Directions

#### Santa Rosa

1900 Santa Rosa Avenue Santa Rosa, CA 95407-7636 (707) 578-3775 Store Details | Get Directions

























1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Docutinent 950 1 var third 01/16/15 Page 7 of 51 Norwalk Ca 12324 Hoxie Avenue Norwalk, CA 90650-2266 (562) 929-0826 Store Details | Get Directions **Fountain Valley** 17900 Newhope Street Fountain Valley, CA 92708-5404 (714) 338-2183 Store Details | Get Directions <u>Azusa</u> 1220 W Foothill Blvd Azusa, CA 91702-2819 (626) 812-7911 Store Details | Get Directions **Fullerton** 900 S Harbor Blvd Fullerton, CA 92832-3098 (714) 738-7521 Store Details | Get Directions **Oxnard** 2001 East Ventura Boulevard Oxnard, CA 93030-1813 (805) 983-4200 Store Details | Get Directions S San Francisco 451 South Airport Boulevard South San Francisco, CA 94080-6909 (650) 872-2021 Store Details | Get Directions Sunnyvale 150 Lawrence Station Rd Sunnyvale, CA 94086-5309 (408) 730-1892 Store Details | Get Directions Signal Hill 2200 E Willow St Signal Hill, CA 90755-2132 (562) 427-2537 Store Details | Get Directions **Alhambra** 2207 West Commonwealth Avenue Alhambra, CA 91803-1302 (626) 289-7164 Store Details | Get Directions San Juan Capistrano 33961 Doheny Park Road San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675-4836 (949) 240-3558 Store Details | Get Directions

Corona

1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Docutinent 950 1 var third 01/16/15 Page 8 of 51 480 N Mckinley St Corona, CA 92879-1291 (951) 279-1190 Store Details | Get Directions **Northridge** 8810 Tampa Avenue Northridge, CA 91324-3519 (818) 775-1860 Store Details | Get Directions Rancho Cordova 11260 White Rock Road Rancho Cordova, CA 95742-6571 (916) 724-2240 Store Details | Get Directions Canoga Park 21300 Roscoe Boulevard Canoga Park, CA 91304-4200 (818) 884-9099 Store Details | Get Directions Palm Desert 72-800 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Desert, CA 92211-0817 (760) 770-2810 Store Details | Get Directions Yorba Linda 22633 Savi Ranch Pkwy Yorba Linda, CA 92887-4664 (714) 282-6650 Store Details | Get Directions Santa Clarita 18649 Via Princessa Santa Clarita, CA 91387-4935 (661) 250-2818 Store Details | Get Directions **Carmel Mountain** 12350 Carmel Mountain Road San Diego, CA 92128-4697 (858) 675-0379 Store Details | Get Directions **Fairfield** 5101 Business Center Dr Fairfield, CA 94534-1624 (707) 864-3816 Store Details | Get Directions <u>Irvine</u> 115 Technology West Drive Irvine, CA 92618-2408 (949) 453-0435 Store Details | Get Directions

Moreno Valley 12700 Day St

Moreno Valley, CA 92553-7531

### 1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Docutinent 950 1 var third 01/16/15 Page 9 of 51 (951) 697-8900 Store Details | Get Directions **Montebello** 1345 North Montebello Boulevard Montebello, CA 90640-2585 (323) 890-1904 Store Details | Get Directions Rancho Del Rey 895 E H St Chula Vista, CA 91910-7807 (619) 656-0826 Store Details | Get Directions Carlsbad 951 Palomar Airport Road Carlsbad, CA 92011-1110 (760) 929-0963 Store Details | Get Directions **South Sacramento** 7981 East Stockton Boulevard Sacramento, CA 95823-9606 (916) 682-3569 Store Details | Get Directions La Mesa 8125 Fletcher Parkway La Mesa, CA 91942-2934 (619) 667-8504 Store Details | Get Directions San Jose (Almaden) 5301 Almaden Expressway San Jose, CA 95118-3603 (408) 723-0964 Store Details | Get Directions Cal Expo (Sacramento) 1600 Expo Parkway Sacramento, CA 95815-4228 (916) 563-7002 Store Details | Get Directions **Salinas** 1339 North Davis Road Salinas, CA 93907-1988 (831) 424-4242 Store Details | Get Directions **Chino Hills** 13111 Peyton Drive Chino Hills, CA 91709-6002 (909) 464-2900

Goleta

Store Details | Get Directions

7095 Market Place Drive

### 1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Documenter 01/16/15 Page 10 of 51 Goleta, CA 93117-5905 (805) 685-3199 Store Details | Get Directions **El Camino** 1600 El Camino Real South San Francisco, CA 94080-1206 (650) 757-3003 Store Details | Get Directions **Torrance** 2751 Skypark Drive Torrance, CA 90505-5351 (310) 891-1020 Store Details | Get Directions San Bernardino 1099 E Hospitality Ln San Bernardino, CA 92408-2836 (909) 478-3445 Store Details | Get Directions **Culver City** 13463 Washington Blvd Marina Del Rey, CA 90292-5658 (310) 754-2003 Store Details | Get Directions Van Nuys 83 6100 Sepulveda Boulevard Van Nuys, CA 91411-2503 (818) 464-1480 Store Details | Get Directions Richmond Ca 4801 Central Avenue Richmond, CA 94804-5878 (510) 898-2000 Store Details | Get Directions Se San Diego 650 Gateway Center Dr San Diego, CA 92102-4530 (619) 358-2303 Store Details | Get Directions **Mission Valley** 2345 Fenton Pkwy San Diego, CA 92108-4743 (619) 358-4000 Store Details | Get Directions

### 8 Hawthorne Bus Ctr

Temecula 26610 Ynez Rd

12530 Prairie Ave Hawthorne, CA 90250-4638

Temecula, CA 92591-4697 (951) 719-2003

Store Details | Get Directions

#### 1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document@scqwarenteet 01/16/15 Page 11 of 51

(310) 220-8826

Store Details | Get Directions

### **Commerce Bus Ctr**

6333 Telegraph Rd Commerce, CA 90040-2513 (323) 767-2640 Store Details | Get Directions

### San Diego Bus Ctr

7803 Othello Ave San Diego, CA 92111-3709 (858) 810-5833 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Fontana**

16505 Sierra Lakes Pkwy Fontana, CA 92336-1256 (909) 770-5639 Store Details | Get Directions

### La Quinta

79795 Hwy 111 La Quinta, CA 92253-4756 (760) 775-0370 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Sw Bakersfield**

4900 Panama Ln Bakersfield, CA 93313-3479 (661) 398-4740 Store Details | Get Directions

### N Fresno

7100 N. Abby Street Fresno, CA 93720-2920 (559) 437-3643 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Tracy**

3250 W. Grant Line Road Tracy, CA 95377 (209) 830-5340 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Rohnert Park**

5901 Redwood Drive Rohnert Park, CA 94928-2076 (707) 540-9113 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Modesto**

3801 Pelandale Ave. Modesto, CA 95356-8300 (209) 342-4903 Store Details | Get Directions

### Concord

2400 Monument Blvd Concord, CA 94520-3105



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(925) 566-4003

Store Details | Get Directions

### **Hawthorne**

14501 Hindry Avenue Hawthorne, CA 90250-6748 (310) 727-0403 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Burbank**

101

1051 W Burbank Blvd Burbank, CA 91506-1421 (818) 557-3783 Store Details | Get Directions

## Rancho Cucamonga

11800 4th Street Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91739-9318 (909) 581-1700 Store Details | Get Directions

### City Of Industry

17550 Castleton St City Of Industry, CA 91748-1701 (626) 839-3053 Store Details | Get Directions

#### **Montclair** 103

9404 Central Avenue Montclair, CA 91763-2421 (909) 575-5004 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Bakersfield**

3800 Rosedale Hwy Bakersfield, CA 93308-6235 (661) 852-2643 Store Details | Get Directions

### Laguna Marketplace

27220 Heather Ridge Road Laguna Niguel, CA 92677-3418 (949) 389-8703 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Vacaville**

1051 Hume Way Vacaville, CA 95687-5558 (707) 453-7343 Store Details | Get Directions

### San Luis Obispo

1540 Froom Ranch Way San Luis Obispo, CA 93405-7211 (805) 541-7000 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Lake Elsinore**

29315 Central Ave Lake Elsinore, CA 92532-2212 (951) 253-6032 Store Details | Get Directions

























1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document@scqwareheet 01/16/15 Page 13 of 51 **Cypress** 発出性限し 5401 Katella Ave Cypress, CA 90720-2809 (562) 668-5150 Store Details | Get Directions **Gilrov** 110 7251 Camino Arroyo Gilroy, CA 95020-7340 (408) 848-0700 Store Details | Get Directions Lancaster Ca 1141 W Avenue L Lancaster, CA 93534-7077 (661) 802-4470 Store Details | Get Directions **Folsom** 112 1800 Cavitt Court Folsom, CA 95630-6235 (916) 850-1000 Store Details | Get Directions **Inglewood** 113 3560 West Century Blvd Inglewood, CA 90303-1201 (310) 242-2777 Store Details | Get Directions Citrus Heights 7000 Auburn Blvd Citrus Heights, CA 95621-4342 (916) 560-4000 Store Details | Get Directions **Poway** 12155 Tech Center Drive Poway, CA 92064-7156 (858) 848-2450 Store Details | Get Directions La Habra 101 N Beach Blvd La Habra, CA 90631-4468 (562) 524-0001 Store Details | Get Directions **Fremont** 43621 Pacific Commons Blvd Fremont, CA 94538-3809 (510) 897-1091 Store Details | Get Directions Chula Vista 1130 Broadway Chula Vista, CA 91911-2707 (619) 205-1501 Store Details | Get Directions

**Turlock** 

#### Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document@@@qwarenteet01/16/15 Page 14 of 51 1/16/2015

2955 North Tegner Road Turlock, CA 95380-9401 (209) 656-5301 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Havward Bus Ctr**

22330 Hathaway Ave Hayward, CA 94541-4861 (510) 259-6600

Store Details | Get Directions

ABOUT US  $Kirkland \ Signature^{\scriptscriptstyle {\mathbb{M}}}$ Company Information Investor Relations Your Privacy Rights Terms and Conditions Jobs

Employee Site Charitable Contributions

Product Videos

MEMBERSHIP Free Technical Support Renew Membership Shipping Credit Card Returns Product Info MY ACCOUNT Recalls Sign in or Register Rebates Order Status Preventing Fraud My Wish Lists Export Sales

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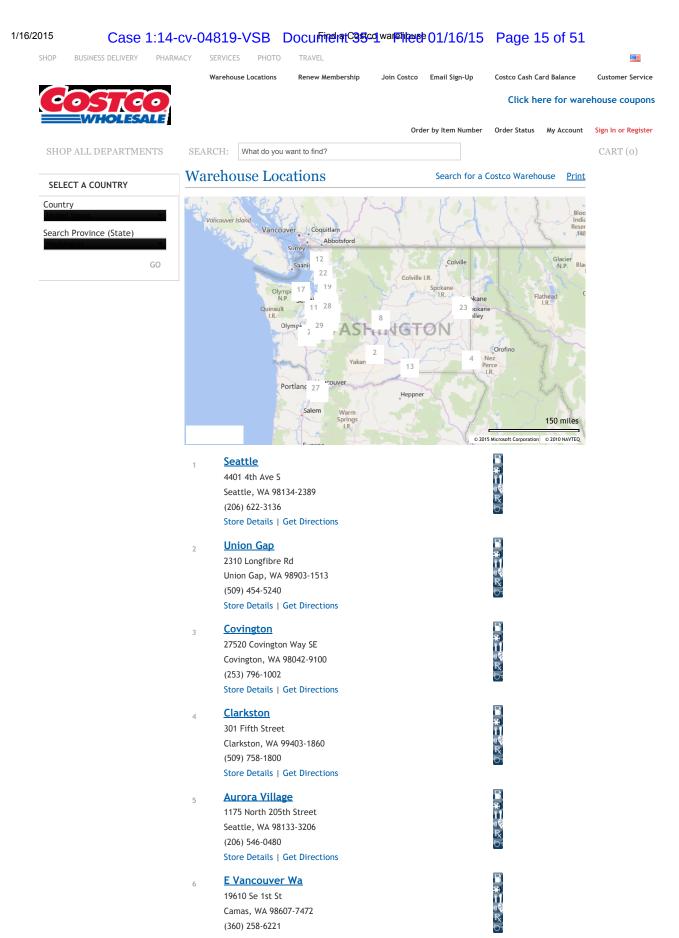
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Sign up



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Store Details | Get Directions

### <u>Issaguah</u>

1801 10th Ave Nw Issaquah, WA 98027-5384 (425) 313-0965 Store Details | Get Directions

### Wenatchee

375 Highline Dr East Wenatchee, WA 98802-5344 (509) 886-0593 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Everett Wa**

10200 19th Avenue SE Everett, WA 98208-4256 (425) 379-7451 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Lynnwood Bus Ctr**

19105 Highway 99 Lynnwood, WA 98036-5228 (425) 640-7700 Store Details | Get Directions

### <u>Silverdale</u>

10000 Mickelberry Rd. NW Silverdale, WA 98383-8302 (360) 692-1140 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Bellingham**

4299 Meridian St Bellingham, WA 98226-6475 (360) 671-6947 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Kennewick**

8505A W. Gage Blvd Kennewick, WA 99336-8120 (509) 737-8857 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Tukwila**

400 Costco Dr Ste 150 Tukwila, WA 98188-4808 (206) 575-9191 Store Details | Get Directions

### Federal Way

35100 Enchanted Parkway South Federal Way, WA 98003-8314 (253) 874-3652 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Gig Harbor**

10990 Harbor Hill Dr Gig Harbor, WA 98335 (253) 853-8600 Store Details | Get Directions

























### 1/16/2015 Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document@scqwarenteet 01/16/15 Page 17 of 51 17 <u>Sequim</u> 955 West Washington St Sequim, WA 98382-3266 (360) 406-2023 Store Details | Get Directions **Tumwater** 5500 Littlerock Rd Sw Tumwater, WA 98512-7363 (360) 357-6580 Store Details | Get Directions **Marysville** 16616 Twin Lakes Ave Marysville, WA 98271-4701 (360) 652-4530 Store Details | Get Directions N Spokane 7619 North Division Street Spokane, WA 99208-5613 (509) 466-9668 Store Details | Get Directions <u>Puyallup</u> 21 1201 39th SW Puyallup, WA 98373-3803 (253) 445-7543 Store Details | Get Directions **Burlington Wa** 22 1725 S Burlington Blvd Burlington, WA 98233-3223 (360) 757-5703 Store Details | Get Directions **Spokane** 23 5601 E Sprague Ave Spokane, WA 99212-0826 (509) 842-0003 Store Details | Get Directions Lacey 24 1470 Marvin Rd NE Lacey, WA 98516-3870 (360) 412-3500 Store Details | Get Directions **Woodinville** 25 24008 Snohomish Woodinville Rd Woodinville, WA 98072-9743 (425) 806-7700 Store Details | Get Directions Fife Bus Ctr 3900 20th St E Fife, WA 98424-1818 (253) 719-1950

Store Details | Get Directions

Vancouver Wa 6720 NE 84th Street

#### Case 1:14-cv-04819-VSB Document@@@qwarenteet01/16/15 Page 18 of 51 1/16/2015

Vancouver, WA 98665-2016 (360) 828-2262

Store Details | Get Directions

### **Kirkland**

8629 120th Avenue NE Kirkland, WA 98033-5865 (425) 827-1693

Store Details | Get Directions

### **Tacoma**

2219 South 37th Street Tacoma, WA 98409-7473 (253) 475-5595

Store Details | Get Directions

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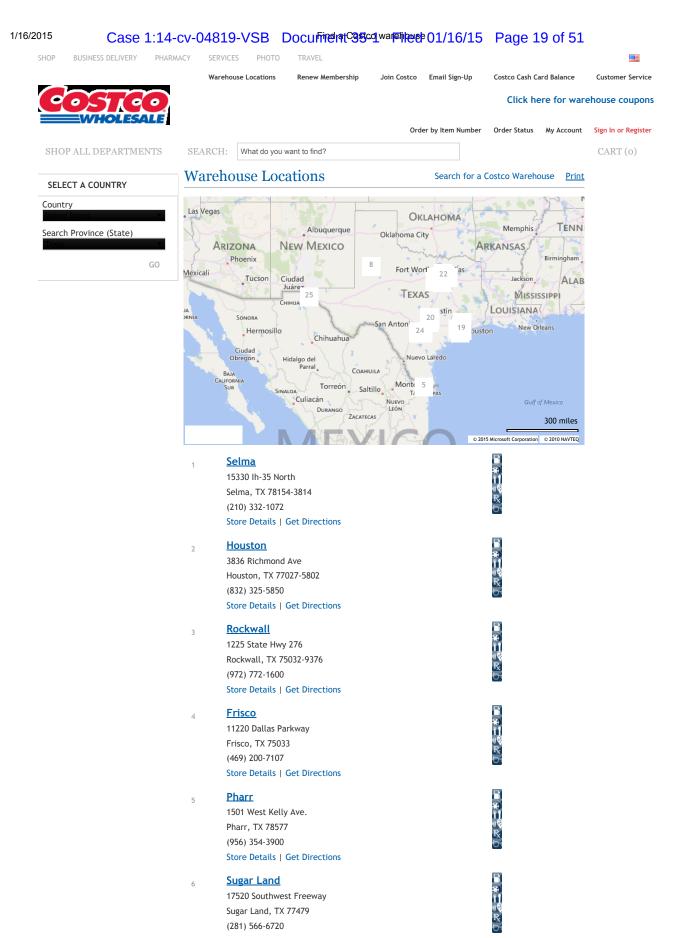
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Store Details | Get Directions

# Cedar Park-Tx 4601 183a Toll Rd. Cedar Park, TX 78613 (512) 690-9059

Store Details | Get Directions

### Lubbock

6020 34th Street Lubbock, TX 79407 (806) 784-1450

Store Details | Get Directions

### W Katy

23645 KATY FREEWAY
Katy, TX 77494
(281) 347-9900
Store Details | Get Directions

10 N Fort Worth

8900 Tehama Ridge Pkwy Fort Worth, TX 76177 (817) 806-9833 Store Details | Get Directions

### The Woodlands

8185 SH 242
The Woodlands, TX 77385
9367032295
Store Details | Get Directions

### Fort Worth

5300 Overton Ridge Blvd Fort Worth, TX 76132-3301 (817) 210-0003 Store Details | Get Directions

### 3 <u>Duncanville</u>

250 West Highway 67
Duncanville, TX 75137-4415
(469) 221-8111
Store Details | Get Directions

S Austin

4301 W William Cannon Drive South Austin, TX 78749-1499 (512) 382-3011

Store Details | Get Directions

### 15 <u>E Plano</u>

3800 N. Central Expressway
Plano, TX 75074-2221
(972) 244-0000
Store Details | Get Directions

### 16 Arlington

600 West Arbrook Blvd Arlington, TX 76014-3702 (817) 417-1600 Store Details | Get Directions

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17 **Southlake** 

> 2601 E. State Hwy 114 Southlake, TX 76092-6668 (817) 749-2800 Store Details | Get Directions

Willowbrook 18

12405 N Gessner Rd Houston, TX 77064-1170 (832) 912-2353 Store Details | Get Directions

**Bunker Hill** 

1150 Bunker Hill Road Houston, TX 77055-6208 (713) 576-2050 Store Details | Get Directions

**Austin** 20

> 10401 Research Blvd Austin, TX 78759-5712 (512) 634-2250

Store Details | Get Directions

**Lewisville** 21

> 851 State Hwy 121 Lewisville, TX 75067-4158 (469) 948-1025 Store Details | Get Directions

W Plano 22

> 1701 Dallas Pkwy Plano, TX 75093-4520 (972) 246-2203 Store Details | Get Directions

Nw San Antonio 23

5611 Utsa Blvd San Antonio, TX 78249-1619 (210) 200-2023

Store Details | Get Directions

Sonterra Park 24

> 1201 N. Loop 1604 East San Antonio, TX 78232-1322 (210) 403-4700

Store Details | Get Directions

El Paso 25

> 6101 Gateway Blvd W El Paso, TX 79925-3430 (915) 774-5203

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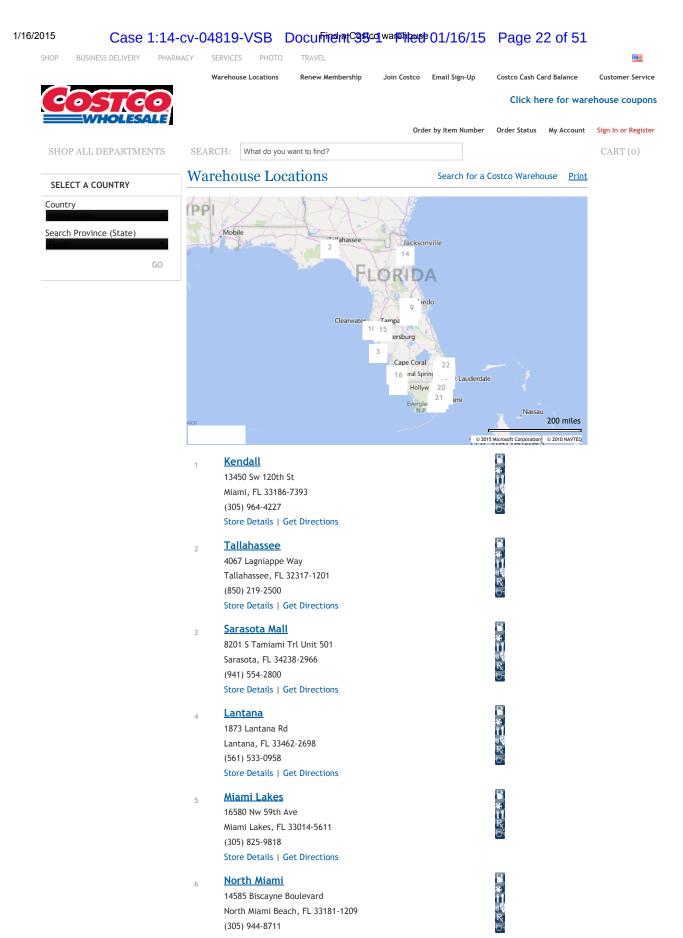
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Store Details | Get Directions

## Altamonte Springs 741 Orange Avenue

Altamonte Springs, FL 32714-3031 (407) 786-7802 Store Details | Get Directions

### 8 S Orlando

2101 Waterbridge Blvd Orlando, FL 32837-9283 (407) 393-1003 Store Details | Get Directions

### <u>E Orlando</u>

3333 University Blvd Winter Park, FL 32792-7428 (407) 681-2119 Store Details | Get Directions

### 10 Clearwater

2655 Gulf to Bay Blvd.
Clearwater, FL 33759-4936
(727) 373-1951
Store Details | Get Directions

### 1 Boca Raton

17800 Congress Avenue Boca Raton, FL 33487-1200 (561) 981-5004 Store Details | Get Directions

### Fort Myers

7171 Cypress Lake Dr Fort Myers, FL 33907-6521 (239) 415-3806 Store Details | Get Directions

### 3 Naples

6275 Naples Boulevard Naples, FL 34109-2030 (239) 596-6404 Store Details | Get Directions

### E Jacksonville

4901 Gate Pkwy Jacksonville, FL 32246-4405 (904) 997-7003 Store Details | Get Directions

### 15 <u>Brandon</u>

10921 Causeway Blvd.
Brandon, FL 33511-2903
(813) 952-0103
Store Details | Get Directions

### 6 Estero

10088 Gulf Center Drive Fort Myers, FL 33913-8961 (239) 433-7242 Store Details | Get Directions





















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### Royal Palm Beach

11001 Southern Blvd Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411-4240 (561) 803-8822 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Pembroke Pines**

15915 Pines Blvd Pembroke Pines, FL 33027-1201 (954) 266-3460 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Pompano**

1800 W Sample Rd Pompano Beach, FL 33064-1324 (954) 968-7114 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Davie**

1890 S University Dr Davie, FL 33324-5847 (954) 370-8990 Store Details | Get Directions

#### **Miami** 21

8300 Park Blvd Doral, FL 33126-3832 (305) 267-0641 Store Details | Get Directions

### Palm Beach Garden

3250 Northlake Boulevard Lake Park, FL 33403-1702 (561) 624-1693 Store Details | Get Directions





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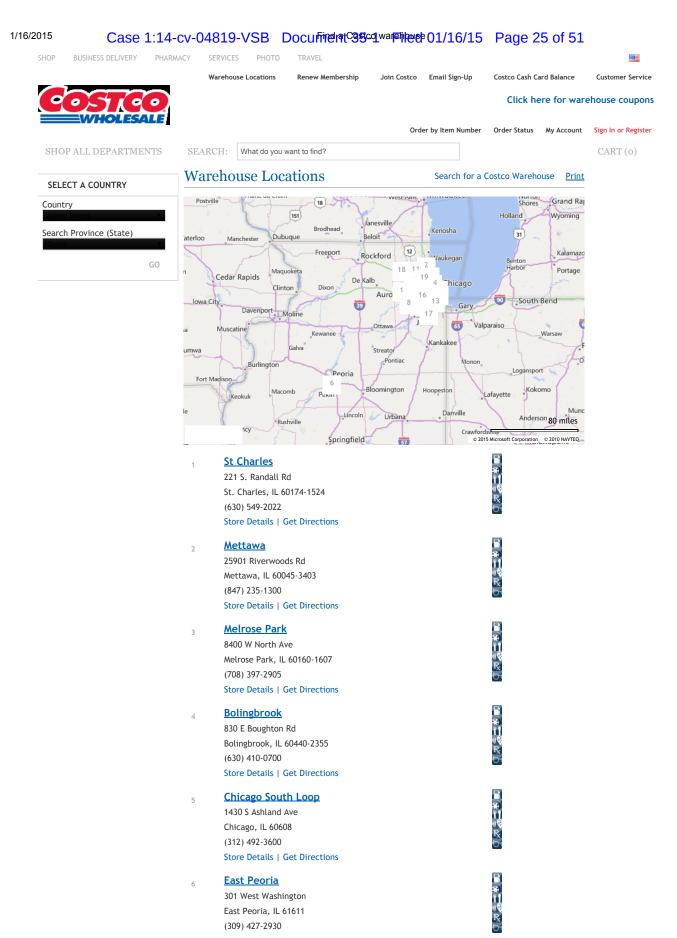
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Store Details | Get Directions

### **North Riverside** 2500 South Harlem Avenue North Riverside, IL 60546 (708) 853-1017 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Naperville**

1320 S. Route 59 Naperville, IL 60564-5944 (630) 328-2900 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Glenview**

2900 Patriot Blvd Glenview, IL 60026-8046 (847) 730-1003 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Bloomingdale**

505 W. Army Trail Road Bloomingdale, IL 60108-1391 (630) 351-3010 Store Details | Get Directions

### Lake Zurich

680 S Rand Rd Lake Zurich, IL 60047-3409 (847) 540-3050 Store Details | Get Directions

### Lincoln Park

2746 N. Clybourn Avenue Chicago, IL 60614-1006 (773) 360-2053 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Bedford Park**

7300 S Cicero Ave Bedford Park, IL 60629-5817 (708) 552-9010 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Niles**

7311 N Melvina Ave Niles, IL 60714-3905 (847) 972-3003 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Schaumburg**

1375 N Meacham Rd Schaumburg, IL 60173-4805 (847) 969-0790 Store Details | Get Directions

### Oak Brook

1901 W 22nd St Oak Brook, IL 60523-1785 (630) 928-0235 Store Details | Get Directions





























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17 **Orland Park** 

> 9915 W 159th St Orland Park, IL 60462-4572 (708) 645-5336 Store Details | Get Directions

#### Lake In The Hills 18

250 N. Randall Rd. Lake in the Hills, IL 60156-5943 (847) 960-9909 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Mt Prospect**

999 N Elmhurst Rd Mount Prospect, IL 60056-1198 (847) 660-2001 Store Details | Get Directions







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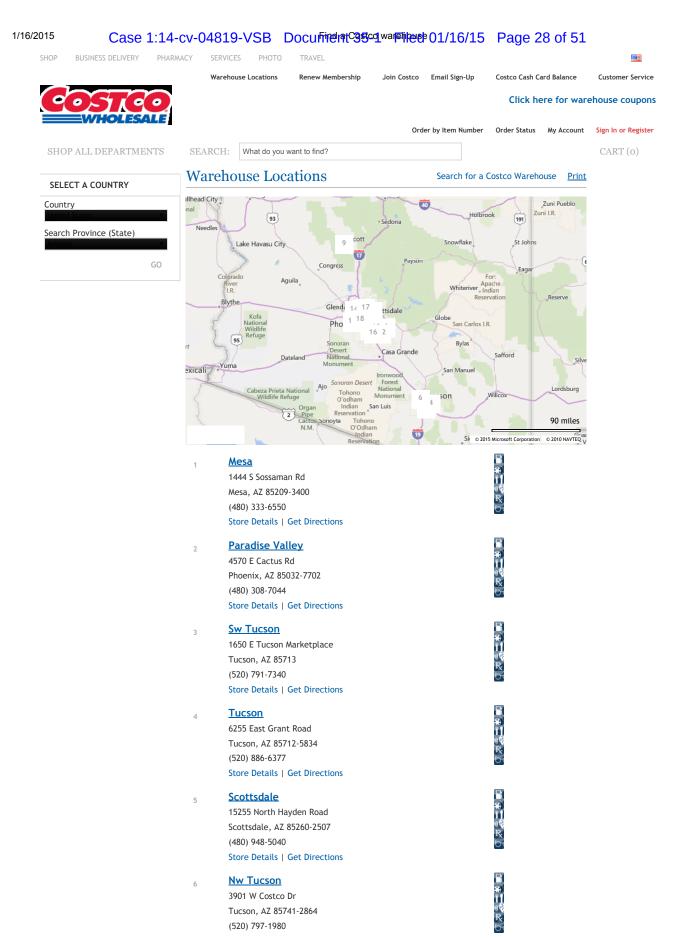
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Store Details | Get Directions

# Tempe 1445 West Elliot Road Tempe, AZ 85284-1103 (480) 496-6651 Store Details | Get Directions

### 8 Thomas Road

4502 East Oak Street
Phoenix, AZ 85008-2411
(602) 808-0101
Store Details | Get Directions

### 9 Prescott

3911 Highway 69 Prescott, AZ 86301-6717 (928) 541-2203 Store Details | Get Directions

### 10 Gilbert

1415 North Arizona Avenue Gilbert, AZ 85233-1616 (480) 293-0053 Store Details | Get Directions

### N Phoenix

19001 N. 27th Ave Phoenix, AZ 85027-5036 (623) 293-4403 Store Details | Get Directions

### Se Gilbert

2887 S Market St Gilbert, AZ 85296-6303 (480) 366-3950 Store Details | Get Directions

### 3 Phoenix

1646 W. Montebello Phoenix, AZ 85015-2557 (602) 293-4524 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Glendale**

17550 N. 79th Ave. Glendale, AZ 85308-8711 (623) 776-4003 Store Details | Get Directions

### 15 Avondale

10000 W. McDowell Road Avondale, AZ 85392-4803 (623) 907-5663 Store Details | Get Directions

### 6 Chandler

595 S Galleria Way Chandler, AZ 85226-4932 (480) 375-2051 Store Details | Get Directions



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17 **Cave Creek** 

> 2450 E Beardsley Rd Phoenix, AZ 85050-1300 (480) 375-2850

Store Details | Get Directions

### **Phoenix Bus Ctr**

3801 N 33rd Ave

Phoenix, AZ 85017-4508

(480) 293-2123

Store Details | Get Directions

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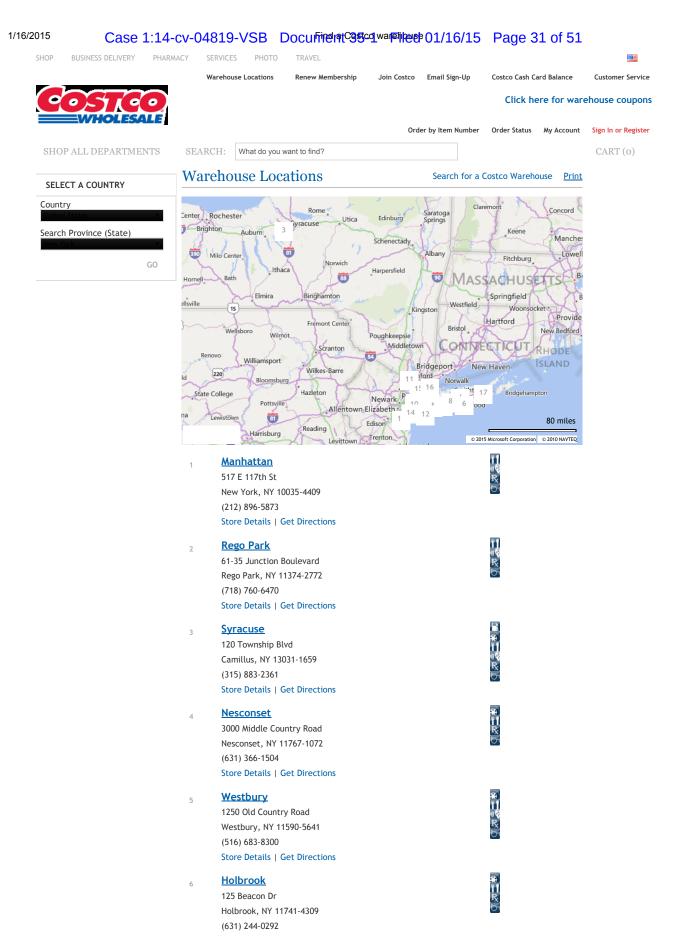
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Store Details | Get Directions

### **Melville**

625 Broadhollow Road Melville, NY 11747-5007 (631) 293-8707 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Commack**

10 Garet Place Commack, NY 11725-5421 (631) 462-3900 Store Details | Get Directions

### New Rochelle

1 Industrial Ln New Rochelle, NY 10805-1203 (914) 235-2233 Store Details | Get Directions

#### Queens 10

3250 Vernon Blvd Long Island City, NY 11106-4927 (718) 267-3680 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Nanuet**

50 Overlook Blvd Nanuet, NY 10954-5292 (845) 425-1469 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Lawrence**

605 Rockaway Tpke Lawrence, NY 11559-1029 (516) 371-2017 Store Details | Get Directions

### Staten Island

2975 Richmond Avenue Staten Island, NY 10314-5851 (718) 982-9525 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Brooklyn**

976 3rd Ave Brooklyn, NY 11232-2400 (718) 965-7603 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Yonkers**

20 Stew Leonard Dr Yonkers, NY 10710-7204 (914) 595-1003 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Port Chester**

1 Westchester Ave Port Chester, NY 10573-4343 (914) 935-3103 Store Details | Get Directions





























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> 17 **Riverhead**

> > 1768 Old Country Rd Riverhead, NY 11901-3146 (631) 655-0110 Store Details | Get Directions

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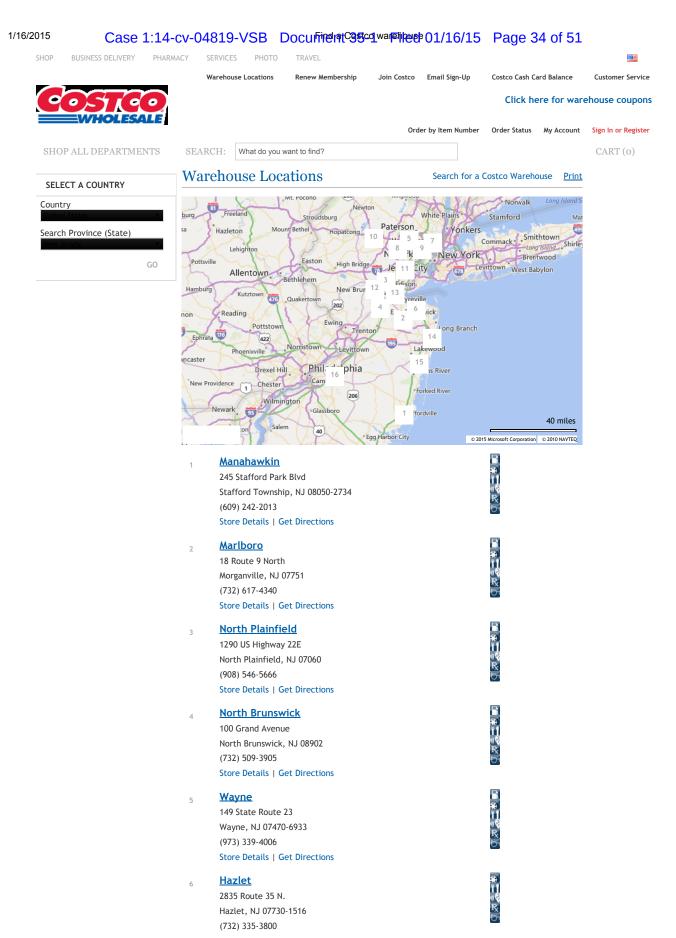
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Store Details | Get Directions

### Hackensack 80 S River St Hackensack, NJ 07601-6954 (201) 487-5471

### 8 East Hanover

156 Sr-10 West East Hanover, NJ 07936-2107 (973) 602-2000 Store Details | Get Directions

Store Details | Get Directions

### 9 Clifton

20 Bridewell Place Clifton, NJ 07014-1724 (973) 779-8715 Store Details | Get Directions

### 10 Wharton

315 State Route 15 N Wharton, NJ 07885-1222 (973) 659-2000 Store Details | Get Directions

### 1 Union

1055 Hudson St Union, NJ 07083-6809 (908) 810-1458 Store Details | Get Directions

### 2 Bridgewater

325 Promenade Blvd.
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-3457
(732) 584-1003
Store Details | Get Directions

### 3 Edison

205 Vineyard Rd Edison, NJ 08817-4785 (732) 491-2023 Store Details | Get Directions

### 4 Ocean Township

2361 Hwy 66 Ocean, NJ 07712-3961 (732) 481-0023 Store Details | Get Directions

### Brick Township

465 Route 70 Brick, NJ 08723-4049 (732) 262-6300 Store Details | Get Directions

### Mt Laurel

100 Centerton Rd Mount Laurel, NJ 08054-6103 (856) 359-3650 Store Details | Get Directions













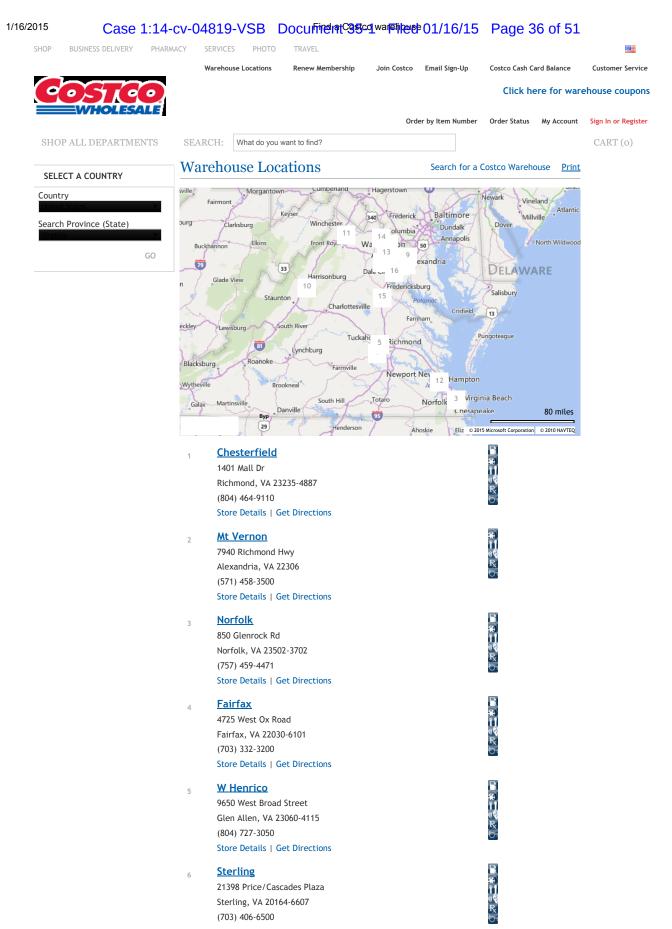












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Store Details | Get Directions

### , <u>Manassas</u>

10701 Sudley Manor Drive Manassas, VA 20109-2845 (703) 368-7579 Store Details | Get Directions

### Newington-Springfield

7373 Boston Boulevard Springfield, VA 22153-2805 (703) 912-1203 Store Details | Get Directions

### 9 Pentagon City

1200 South Fern Street
Arlington, VA 22202-2862
(703) 413-2324
Store Details | Get Directions

### 0 Harrisonburg

1830 Reservoir Street Harrisonburg, VA 22801-8742 (540) 432-8989 Store Details | Get Directions

### 1 Winchester

251 Front Royal Pike Winchester, VA 22602-7319 (540) 722-9626 Store Details | Get Directions

### Newport News

12121 Jefferson Ave Newport News, VA 23602-6916 (757) 746-2003 Store Details | Get Directions

### 3 Chantilly

14390 Chantilly Crossing Lane Chantilly, VA 20151-2117 (703) 885-5544 Store Details | Get Directions

### Leesburg

1300 Edwards Ferry Road Leesburg, VA 20176-3355 (703) 669-5060 Store Details | Get Directions

### 15 Fredericksburg

3102 Plank Road #600 Fredericksburg, VA 22407-4954 (540) 785-1163 Store Details | Get Directions

### 6 Potomac Mills

2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 200 Woodbridge, VA 22192-4653 (703) 490-7400 Store Details | Get Directions























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Store Details | Get Directions

### **Westminster Co** 6400 W 92nd Ave Westminster, CO 80031-2952 (303) 650-1476 Store Details | Get Directions

### Sw Denver

7900 W Quincy Ave Littleton, CO 80123-1350 (303) 933-4931 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Douglas County**

8686 Park Meadows Center Dr Littleton, CO 80124-5129 (303) 708-0012 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Superior**

600 Marshall Rd Superior, CO 80027-9730 (720) 587-1000 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Thornton**

16375 Washington St Thornton, CO 80023-8907 (303) 474-3247 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Gypsum**

170 Cooley Mesa Rd Gypsum, CO 81637-9707 (970) 328-7601 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Arvada**

5195 Wadsworth Blvd Arvada, CO 80002-4617 (303) 463-3603 Store Details | Get Directions

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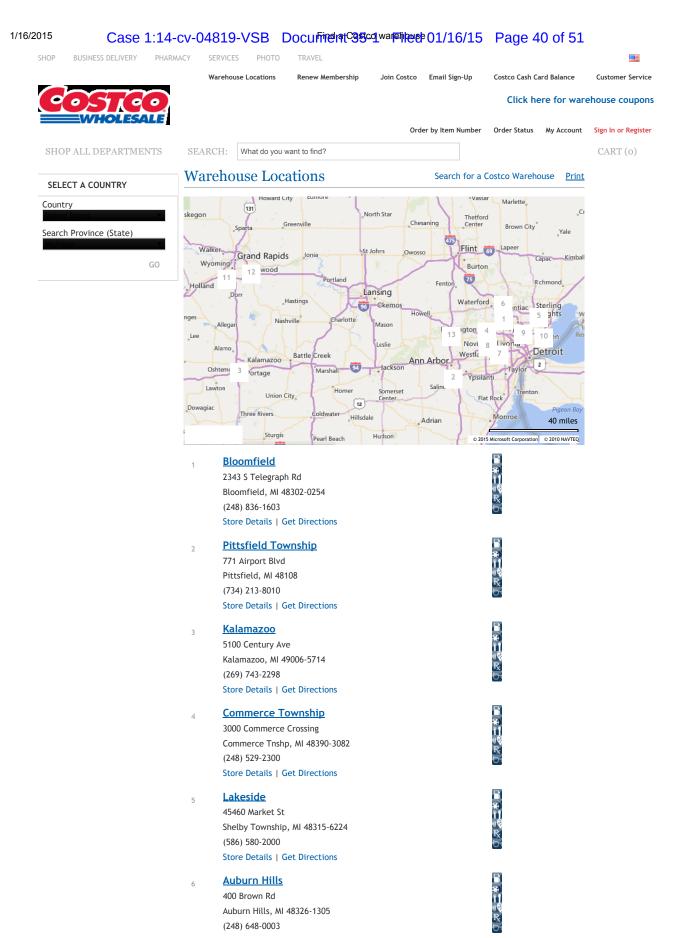
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Store Details | Get Directions

### **Middlebelt** 13700 Middlebelt Rd Livonia, MI 48150-2215 (734) 427-0563

### **Haggerty**

20000 Haggerty Rd Livonia, MI 48152-1011 (734) 464-6399 Store Details | Get Directions

Store Details | Get Directions

### **Madison Heights**

30550 Stephenson Highway Madison Heights, MI 48071-1611 (248) 616-0048 Store Details | Get Directions

### Roseville Mi

27118 Gratiot Ave Roseville, MI 48066-2915 (586) 447-0191 Store Details | Get Directions

### Wyoming

4901 Wilson Ave SW Wyoming, MI 49418-8788 (616) 406-2651 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Grand Rapids East**

5100 28th Street SE Grand Rapids, MI 49512-2049 (616) 233-4401 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Green Oak Township**

6700 Whitmore Lake Rd Brighton, MI 48116-2160 (810) 220-8950 Store Details | Get Directions

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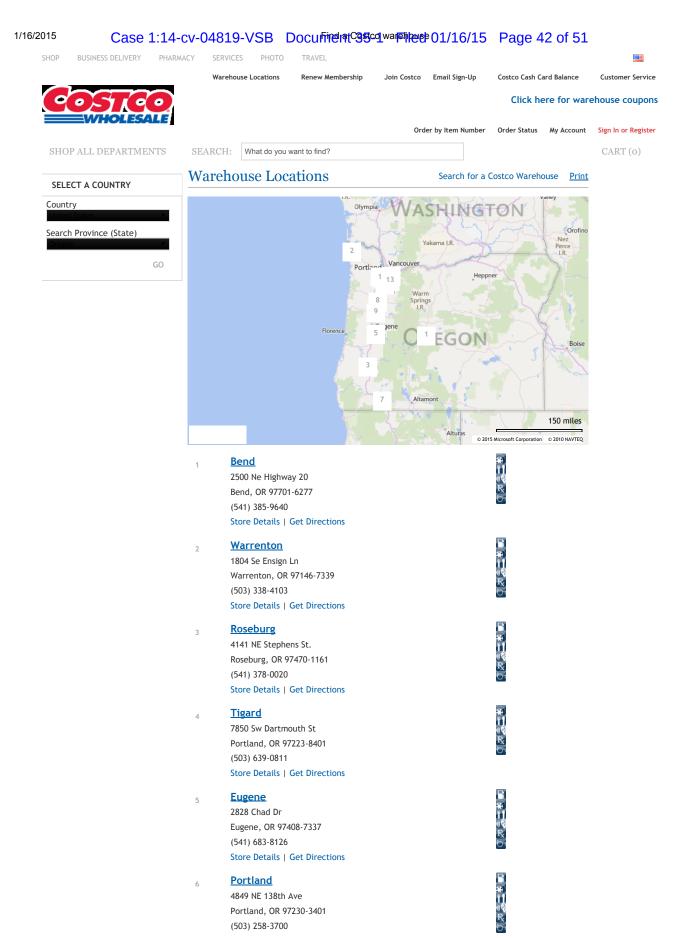
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### Medford 3639 Crater Lake Hwy Medford, OR 97504-9259 (541) 734-4227 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Salem**

1010 Hawthorne Avenue SE Salem, OR 97301-5090 (503) 371-1729 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Albany**

3130 Killdeer Ave Albany, OR 97321-5325 (541) 918-7040 Store Details | Get Directions

#### <u>Hillsboro</u> 10

1255 NE 48th Ave Hillsboro, OR 97124-5008 (503) 681-2800 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Wilsonville**

25900 SW Heather Place Wilsonville, OR 97070-5785 (503) 825-4003 Store Details | Get Directions

### <u>Aloha</u>

15901 Sw Jenkins Rd Aloha, OR 97006-5098 (503) 644-7615 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Clackamas**

13130 SE 84th Avenue Clackamas, OR 97015-9733 (503) 794-5500 Store Details | Get Directions

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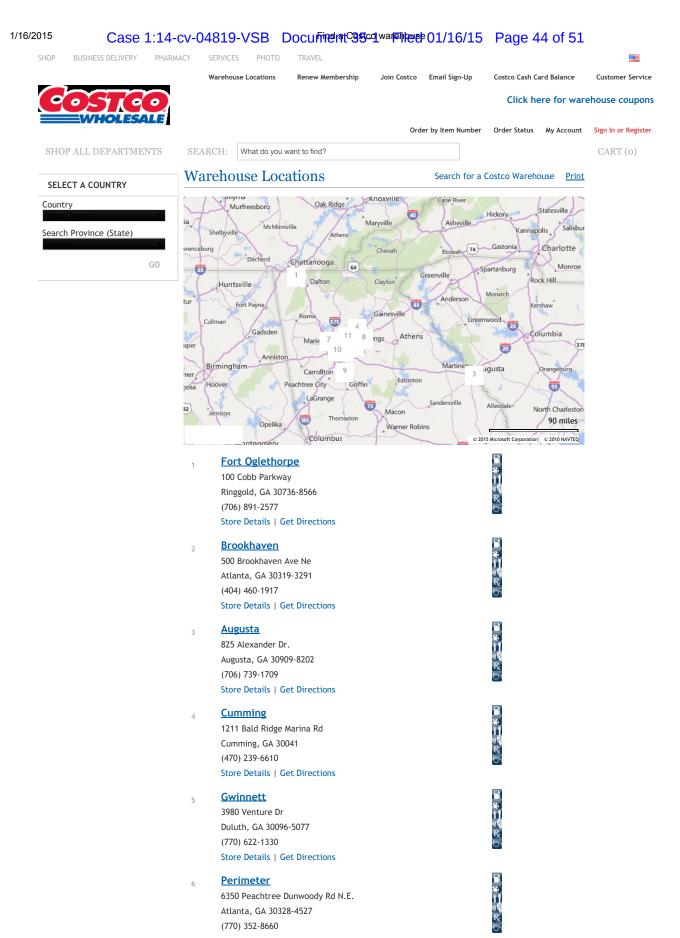
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### **Town Center**

645 Barrett Parkway Nw Kennesaw, GA 30144-4922 (770) 794-1767 Store Details | Get Directions

### Mall Of Georgia

1550 Mall Of Georgia Blvd Buford, GA 30519-6551 (678) 288-3009 Store Details | Get Directions

### Morrow Bus Ctr

1700 Mount Zion Rd Morrow, GA 30260-3014 (678) 201-0003 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Cumberland Mall**

2900 Cumberland Mall Atlanta, GA 30339-8107 (770) 431-1700 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Alpharetta**

2855 Jordan Ct Alpharetta, GA 30004-3869 (678) 823-4950 Store Details | Get Directions



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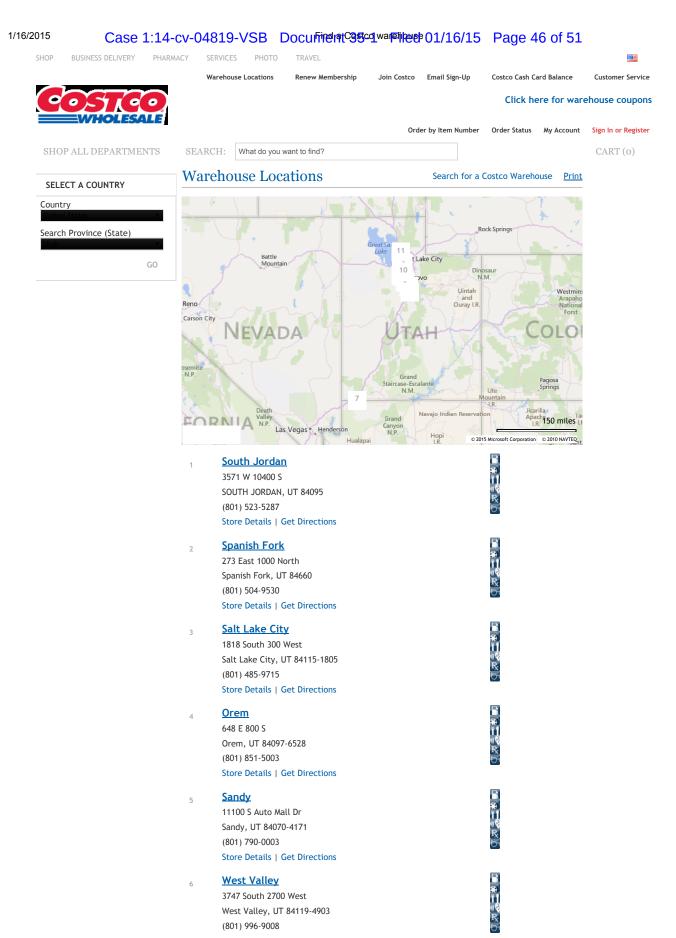
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### St George 835 North 3050 East St. George, UT 84790-9041 (435) 256-0003 Store Details | Get Directions



198 North 1200 East Lehi, UT 84043-2294 (801) 653-2700 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Bountiful**

573 West 100 North West Bountiful, UT 84010-7018 (801) 299-3940 Store Details | Get Directions

#### **Murray** 10

5201 South Intermountain Drive Murray, UT 84107-6024 (801) 290-4200 Store Details | Get Directions

### South Ogden

3656 Wall Avenue Ogden, UT 84405-7101 (801) 317-3950 Store Details | Get Directions

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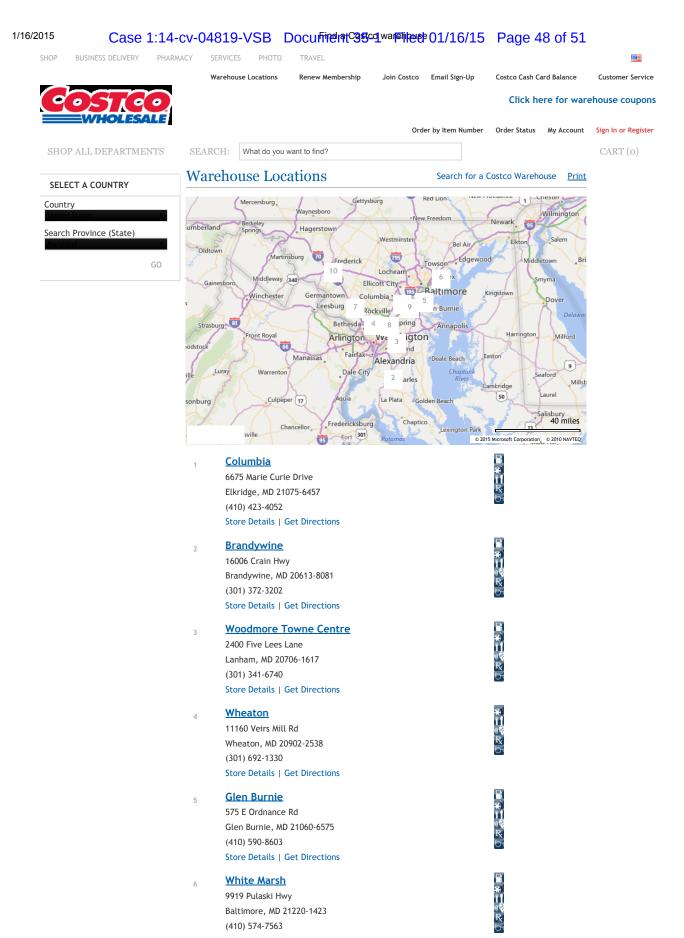
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### Gaithersburg

880 Russell Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20879-3506 (301) 417-1500 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Beltsville**

10925 Baltimore Ave Beltsville, MD 20705-2117 (301) 902-2640 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Arundel Mills**

7077 Arundel Mills Circle Hanover, MD 21076-1387 (410) 379-3103 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Frederick**

10 Monocacy Blvd Frederick, MD 21704-7256 (301) 644-1483 Store Details | Get Directions









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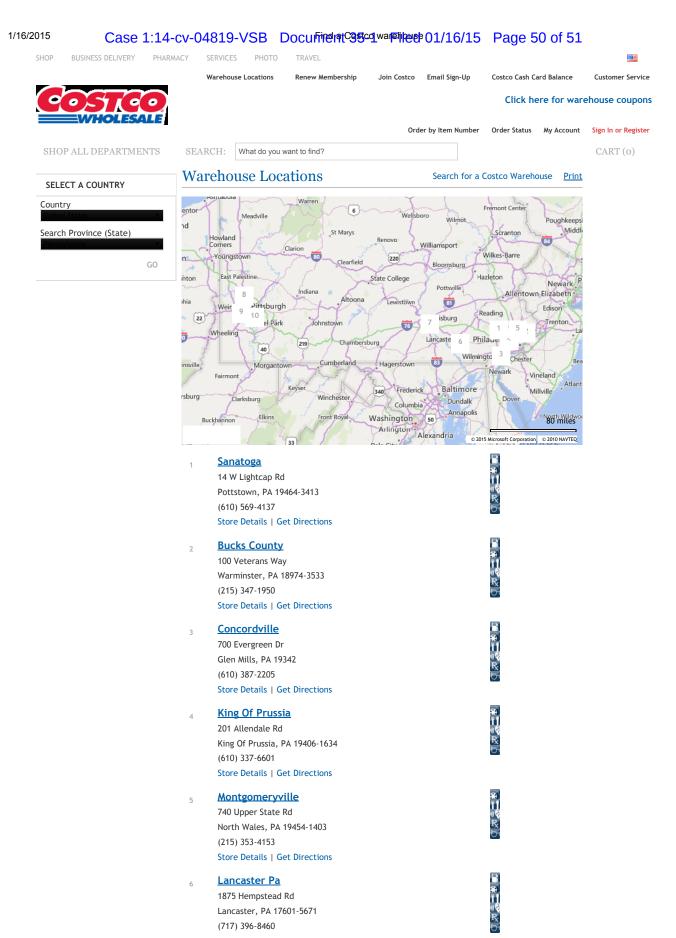
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### **Harrisburg**

5125 Jonestown Road Suite 221 Harrisburg, PA 17112-2983 (717) 412-2050 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Cranberry Township**

1050 Cranberry Square Drive Cranberry Township, PA 16066-6142 (724) 778-6303 Store Details | Get Directions

### Robinson

202 Costco Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15205-4858 (412) 490-2204 Store Details | Get Directions

### **Homestead**

501 W Waterfront Dr West Homestead, PA 15120-5009 (412) 205-1002 Store Details | Get Directions









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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., et al.,

Civil Action No. 14-cv-4819 (VSB)

Plaintiffs,

V.

COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION,

**NOTICE OF APPEAL** 

Defendant.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that Plaintiffs Ritchie Capital Management, L.L.C., Ritchie Capital Management, Ltd., and Ritchie Special Credit Investments, Ltd., hereby appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from the Memorandum and Order of the Hon. Vernon S. Broderick, entered September 21, 2015, which granted Defendant Costco Wholesale Corporation's motion to dismiss the Complaint with prejudice, and directed that this case be closed.

Dated: New York, New York October 16, 2015

Respectfully submitted, COLE SCHOTZ P.C.

By: s/Leo V. Leyva
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New York, NY 10022-4728
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Attorneys for Plaintiffs, RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., RITCHIE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LTD., and RITCHIE SPECIAL CREDIT INVESTMENTS, LTD.