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FILED
ALAMEDA COUNTY

MAY - 4 2011

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9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10 COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

12 SIDDHARTH HARIHARAN, individually
13 and on behalf of all others similarly
situated,

14 Plaintiff

15 v.

17 ADOBE SYSTEMS INC., APPLE INC.,
GOOGLE INC., INTEL CORP., INTUIT
18 INC., LUCASFILM LTD., PIXAR, AND
DOES 1-200,

19 Defendants.
20

Case No.

109 11574066

CLASS ACTION

COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF:
(1) THE CARTWRIGHT ACT (BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONS CODE
SECTIONS 16720, *ET SEQ.*);
(2) BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE
SECTION 16600; AND
(3) THE UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW
(BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE
SECTIONS 17200, *ET SEQ.*)

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

AMOUNT DEMANDED EXCEEDS \$25,000

24 Plaintiff Siddharth Hariharan, individually and on behalf of all others similarly
25 situated ("Plaintiff"), complains against defendants Adobe Systems Inc., Apple Inc., Google Inc.,
26 Intel Corp., Intuit Inc., Lucasfilm Ltd., Pixar, and DOES 1-200 (collectively, "Defendants"), upon
27 knowledge as to himself and his own acts, and upon information and belief as to all other matters,
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1 alleges as follows:

2 **I. SUMMARY OF THE ACTION**

3 1. This class action challenges a conspiracy among Defendants to fix and
4 suppress the compensation of their employees. Without the knowledge or consent of their
5 employees, Defendants' senior executives entered into an interconnected web of express
6 agreements to eliminate competition among them for skilled labor. This conspiracy included: (1)
7 agreements not to actively recruit each other's employees; (2) agreements to provide notification
8 when making an offer to another's employee (without the knowledge or consent of that
9 employee); and (3) agreements that, when offering a position to another company's employee,
10 neither company would counteroffer above the initial offer.

11 2. The intended and actual effect of these agreements was to fix and suppress
12 employee compensation, and to impose unlawful restrictions on employee mobility. Defendants'
13 conspiracy and agreements restrained trade and are per se unlawful under California law.
14 Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief and damages for violations of: California's antitrust statute,
15 Business and Professions Code sections 16720 *et seq.* (the "Cartwright Act"); Business and
16 Professions Code section 16600 ("Section 16600"); and California's unfair competition law,
17 Business and Professions Code sections 17200, *et seq.* (the "Unfair Competition Law").

18 3. In 2009 through 2010, the Antitrust Division of the United States
19 Department of Justice (the "DOJ") investigated Defendants' misconduct. The DOJ found that
20 Defendants' agreements violated federal antitrust laws and "are facially anticompetitive because
21 they eliminated a significant form of competition to attract high tech employees, and, overall,
22 substantially diminished competition to the detriment of the affected employees who were likely
23 deprived of competitively important information and access to better job opportunities." The
24 DOJ concluded that Defendants' agreements "disrupted the normal price-setting mechanisms that
25 apply in the labor setting."

26 4. The DOJ has confirmed that it will not seek to compensate employees who
27 were injured by Defendants' agreements. Without this class action, Plaintiff and members of the
28

1 class will not receive compensation for their injuries, and Defendants will continue to retain the
2 benefits of their unlawful collusion.

3 5. Plaintiff does not seek any relief under Section 4 of the Clayton Act,
4 15 U.S.C. section 15.

5 **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

6 6. This Complaint is filed, and these proceedings are instituted, pursuant to
7 California Business and Professions Code sections 16600, 16750(a), 17203, and 17204, to
8 recover damages and to obtain other relief that Plaintiff and members of the class have sustained
9 due to violations by Defendants, as hereinafter alleged, of the Cartwright Act, Section 16600, and
10 the Unfair Competition Law.

11 7. Venue as to the Defendants is proper in this judicial district pursuant to the
12 provisions of California Business and Professions Code section 16750(a) and California Code of
13 Civil Procedure sections 395(a) and 395.5.

14 8. Plaintiff and at least two-thirds of all class members are citizens of the
15 State of California. All Defendants are citizens of the State of California.

16 9. All Defendants maintain their principal places of business in California.
17 Defendant Pixar maintains its principal place of business in the County of Alameda. Plaintiff's
18 causes of action arose in part within the County of Alameda, and Defendants are within the
19 jurisdiction of this Court for purposes of service of process. Many of the unlawful acts
20 hereinafter alleged had a direct effect on employees of Defendants in California, and, more
21 particularly, within the County of Alameda.

22 10. This Court has personal jurisdiction over each Defendant as co-
23 conspirators as a result of the acts of any of the Defendants occurring in California in connection
24 with Defendants' violations of the Cartwright Act, Section 16600, and/or the Unfair Competition
25 Law. No portion of this Complaint is brought pursuant to federal law.

26 **III. CHOICE OF LAW**

27 11. California law applies to the claims of Plaintiff and all class members.
28 Application of California law is constitutional, and California has a strong interest in deterring

1 unlawful business practices of resident corporations and compensating those harmed by activities
2 occurring in and emanating from California.

3 12. All Defendants maintain their principal places of business in California and
4 are California citizens.

5 13. California is the State in which Defendants negotiated, entered into,
6 implemented, monitored, and enforced the conspiracy and associated agreements.

7 14. Defendants' actively concealed their participation in the conspiracy, and
8 actively concealed the existence of their unlawful agreements, in California.

9 15. California is the State in which Plaintiff's and class members' relationship
10 with the Defendants is centered. At least a majority of class members resided in or sought
11 employment from Defendants in California, and were therefore damaged in California.

12 16. Plaintiff and class members were injured by conduct occurring in, and
13 emanating from, California.

14 17. For these reasons, among others, California has significant contacts, and a
15 significant aggregation of contacts, creating State interests, with all parties and the acts alleged
16 herein.

17 18. California's substantial interests far exceed those of any other State.

18 **IV. THE PARTIES**

19 **A. The Plaintiff**

20 19. Plaintiff Siddharth Hariharan ("Plaintiff") is a citizen of the State of
21 California. From January 8, 2007 through August 15, 2008, Plaintiff was a citizen of the State of
22 California and worked in California as a software engineer for Lucasfilm. Plaintiff was injured in
23 his business or property by reason of the violations alleged herein.

24 **B. The Defendants**

25 20. Defendant Adobe Systems Inc. ("Adobe") is a Delaware corporation with
26 its principal place of business located at 345 Park Avenue, San Jose, California 95110.

27 21. Defendant Apple Inc. ("Apple") is a California corporation with its
28 principal place of business located at 1 Infinite Loop, Cupertino, California 95014.

1 22. Defendant Google Inc. (“Google”) is a Delaware corporation with its
2 principal place of business located at 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, California
3 94043.

4 23. Defendant Intel Corp. (“Intel”) is a Delaware corporation with its principal
5 place of business located at 2200 Mission College Boulevard, Santa Clara, California 95054.

6 24. Defendant Intuit Inc. (“Intuit”) is a Delaware corporation with its principal
7 place of business located at 2632 Marine Way, Mountain View, California 94043.

8 25. Defendant Lucasfilm Ltd. (“Lucasfilm”) is a California corporation with its
9 principal place of business located at 1110 Gorgas Ave., in San Francisco, California 94129.

10 26. Defendant Pixar is a California corporation with its principal place of
11 business located at 1200 Park Avenue, Emeryville, California 94608.

12 27. Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that DOES 1-50, inclusive, were
13 co-conspirators with other Defendants in the violations alleged in this Complaint and performed
14 acts and made statements in furtherance thereof. DOES 1-50 are corporations, companies,
15 partnerships, or other business entities that maintain their principal places of business in
16 California. Plaintiff is presently unaware of the true names and identities of those defendants
17 sued herein as DOES 1-50. Plaintiff will amend this Complaint to allege the true names of the
18 DOE defendants when he is able to ascertain them.

19 28. Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that DOES 51-200, inclusive,
20 were co-conspirators with other Defendants in the violations alleged in this Complaint and
21 performed acts and made statements in furtherance thereof. DOES 51-200 are residents of the
22 State of California and are corporate officers, members of the boards of directors, or senior
23 executives of Adobe, Apple, Google, Intel, Intuit, Lucasfilm, Pixar, and DOES 1-50. Plaintiff is
24 presently unaware of the true names and identities of those defendants sued herein as DOES 51-
25 200. Plaintiff will amend this Complaint to allege the true names of the DOE defendants when he
26 is able to ascertain them.

1 **V. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

2 29. This suit is brought as a class action pursuant to section 382 of the
3 California Code of Civil Procedure, on behalf of a class of:

4 All natural persons employed by Defendants in the United States on
5 a salaried basis during the period from January 1, 2005 through
6 January 1, 2010. Excluded from the class are: retail employees;
7 corporate officers, members of the boards of directors, and senior
8 executives of Defendants who entered into the illicit agreements
9 alleged herein; and any and all judges and justices, and chambers'
10 staff, assigned to hear or adjudicate any aspect of this litigation.

11 30. Plaintiff does not, as yet, know the exact size of the class. Based upon the
12 nature of the trade and commerce involved, Plaintiff believes that there are tens of thousands of
13 class members, and that class members are geographically dispersed throughout the State of
14 California and throughout the United States. Joinder of all members of the class, therefore, is not
15 practicable.

16 31. There are questions of law and fact common to the class that predominate
17 over any questions that may affect only individual members of the class, including, but not
18 limited to:

- 19 (a) whether the conduct of Defendants violated the Cartwright Act;
20 (b) whether Defendants' conspiracy and associated agreements, or any
21 one of them, constitute a per se violation of the Cartwright Act;
22 (c) whether Defendants' agreements are void as a matter of law under
23 Section 16600;
24 (d) whether the conduct of Defendants violated the Unfair Competition
25 Law;
26 (e) whether Defendants fraudulently concealed their conduct;
27 (f) whether Defendants' conspiracy and associated agreements
28 restrained trade, commerce, or competition for skilled labor among Defendants;
(g) whether, under common principles of California antitrust law,
Plaintiff and the class suffered antitrust injury or were threatened with injury;

1 (h) the difference between the total compensation Plaintiff and the class
2 received from Defendants, and the total compensation Plaintiff and the class would have received
3 from Defendants in the absence of the illegal acts, contracts, combinations, and conspiracy
4 alleged herein;

5 (i) the effect of the conduct of Defendants upon, and the injury caused
6 to, the business or property of the Plaintiff and the class; and

7 (j) the type and measure of damages suffered by Plaintiff and the
8 Class.

9 32. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class because
10 Plaintiff's claims are typical and representative of the claims of all members of the class.

11 33. There are no defenses of a unique nature that may be asserted against
12 Plaintiff individually, as distinguished from the other members of the class, and the relief sought
13 is common to the class. Plaintiff is typical of other members of the class, does not have any
14 interest that is in conflict with or is antagonistic to the interests of the members of the class, and
15 has no conflict with any other member of the class. Plaintiff has retained competent counsel
16 experienced in antitrust litigation and class action litigation to represent himself and the class.

17 34. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and
18 efficient adjudication of this controversy. In the absence of a class action, Defendants will retain
19 the benefits of their wrongful conduct.

20 **VI. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

21 **A. Trade And Commerce**

22 35. In a properly functioning and lawfully competitive labor market, each
23 Defendant would compete for employees by soliciting current employees of one or more other
24 Defendants. Defendants refer to this recruiting method as "cold calling." Cold calling includes
25 communicating directly in any manner (including orally, in writing, telephonically, or
26 electronically) with another firm's employee who has not otherwise applied for a job opening.

27 36. Cold calling is a particularly effective recruiting method because current
28 employees of other companies are often unresponsive to other recruiting strategies.

1 37. Defendants and other high technology companies classify potential
2 employees into two categories: first, those who are currently employed by rival firms and not
3 actively seeking to change employers; and second, those who are actively looking for
4 employment offers (either because they are unemployed, or because they are unsatisfied with
5 their current employer). Defendants and other high technology companies value potential
6 employees of the first category significantly higher than potential employees of the second
7 category, because current satisfied employees tend to be more qualified, harder working, and
8 more stable than those who are actively looking for employment.

9 38. In addition, a company searching for a new hire is eager to save costs and
10 avoid risks by poaching that employee from a rival company. Through poaching, a company is
11 able to take advantage of the efforts its rival has expended in soliciting, interviewing, and training
12 skilled labor, while simultaneously inflicting a cost on the rival by removing an employee on
13 whom the rival may depend.

14 39. For these reasons and others, cold calling is a key competitive tool
15 companies use to recruit employees, particularly high technology employees with advanced skills
16 and abilities.

17 40. The practice of cold calling has a significant impact on employee
18 compensation in a variety of ways. First, without receiving cold calls from rival companies,
19 current employees lack information regarding potential pay packages and lack leverage over their
20 employers in negotiating pay increases. When a current employee receives a cold call from a
21 rival company with an offer that exceeds her current compensation, the current employee may
22 either accept that offer and move from one employer to another, or use the offer to negotiate
23 increased compensation from her current employer. In either case, the recipient of the cold call
24 has an opportunity to use competition among potential employers to increase her compensation
25 and mobility.

26 41. Second, once an employee receives information regarding potential
27 compensation from rival employers through a cold call, that employee is likely to inform other
28 employees of her current employer. These other employees often use the information themselves

1 to negotiate pay increases or move from one employer to another, despite the fact that they
2 themselves did not receive a cold call.

3 42. Third, cold calling a rival's employees provides information to the cold
4 caller regarding its rival's compensation practices. Increased information and transparency
5 regarding compensation levels tends to increase compensation across all current employees,
6 because there is pressure to match or exceed the highest compensation package offered by rivals
7 in order to remain competitive.

8 43. Fourth, cold calling is a significant factor responsible for losing employees
9 to rivals. When a company expects that its employees will be cold called by rivals with
10 employment offers, the company will preemptively increase the compensation of its employees in
11 order to reduce the risk that its rivals will be able to poach relatively undercompensated
12 employees.

13 44. The compensation effects of cold calling are not limited to the particular
14 individuals who receive cold calls, or to the particular individuals who would have received cold
15 calls but for the anticompetitive agreements alleged herein. Instead, the effects of cold calling
16 (and the effects of eliminating cold calling, pursuant to agreement) commonly impact all salaried
17 employees of the participating companies.

18 45. Defendants carefully monitor and manage their internal compensation
19 levels to achieve certain goals, including: maintaining approximate compensation parity among
20 employees within the same employment categories (for example, among junior software
21 engineers); maintaining certain compensation relationships among employees across different
22 employment categories (for example, among junior software engineers relative to senior software
23 engineers); maintaining high employee morale and productivity; retaining employees; and
24 attracting new and talented employees. To accomplish these objectives, Defendants set baseline
25 compensation levels for different employee categories that apply to all employees within those
26 categories. Defendants also compare baseline compensation levels across different employee
27 categories. Defendants update baseline compensation levels regularly.

1 46. While Defendants sometimes engage in negotiations regarding
2 compensation levels with individual employees, these negotiations occur from a starting point of
3 the pre-existing and pre-determined baseline compensation level. The eventual compensation any
4 particular employee receives is either entirely determined by the baseline level, or is profoundly
5 influenced by it. In either case, suppression of baseline compensation will result in suppression
6 of total compensation.

7 47. Thus, under competitive and lawful conditions, Defendants would use cold
8 calling as one of their most important tools for recruiting and retaining skilled labor, and the use
9 of cold calling among Defendants commonly impacts and increases total compensation and
10 mobility of all Defendants' employees.

11 **B. Defendants' Conspiracy To Fix The Compensation Of Their Employees At**
12 **Artificially Low Levels**

13 48. Defendants' conspiracy consisted of an interconnected web of express
14 agreements, each with the active involvement and participation of a company under the control of
15 Steve Jobs (currently CEO of Apple) and/or a company that shared at least one member of
16 Apple's board of directors. Defendants entered into the express agreements and entered into the
17 overarching conspiracy with knowledge of the other Defendants' participation, and with the intent
18 of accomplishing the conspiracy's objective: to reduce employee compensation and mobility
19 through eliminating competition for skilled labor.

20 **1. The Conspiracy Began With Secret and Express Agreements Between**
21 **Pixar And Lucasfilm**

22 49. The conspiracy began with an agreement between senior executives of
23 Pixar and Lucasfilm to eliminate competition between them for skilled labor, with the intent and
24 effect of suppressing the compensation and mobility of their employees.

25 50. Pixar and Lucasfilm have a shared history. In 1986, Steve Jobs purchased
26 Lucasfilm's computer graphics division, established it as an independent company, and called it
27 "Pixar." Thereafter and until 2006, Steve Jobs remained CEO of Pixar.
28

1 51. Before Steve Jobs’s departure as CEO of Pixar and beginning no later than
2 January 2005, senior executives of Pixar and Lucasfilm entered into at least three agreements to
3 eliminate competition between them for skilled labor. First, each agreed not to cold call each
4 other’s employees. Second, each agreed to notify the other company when making an offer to an
5 employee of the other company, if that employee applied for a job notwithstanding the absence of
6 cold calling. Third, each agreed that if either made an offer to such an employee of the other
7 company, neither company would counteroffer above the initial offer. This third agreement was
8 created with the intent and effect of eliminating “bidding wars,” whereby an employee could use
9 multiple rounds of bidding between Pixar and Lucasfilm to increase her total compensation.

10 52. Pixar and Lucasfilm reached these express agreements through direct and
11 explicit communications among senior executives. Pixar drafted the written terms of the
12 agreements and sent those terms to Lucasfilm. Pixar and Lucasfilm then provided the written
13 terms to management and certain senior employees with the relevant hiring or recruiting
14 responsibilities.

15 53. The three agreements covered all employees of the two companies, were
16 not limited by geography, job function, product group, or time period, and were not ancillary to
17 any legitimate collaboration between Pixar and Lucasfilm.

18 54. Senior executives of Pixar and Lucasfilm actively concealed their unlawful
19 agreements. Employees of Pixar and Lucasfilm were not aware of, and did not agree to, the terms
20 of the agreements between Pixar and Lucasfilm.

21 55. After entering into the agreements, senior executives of both Pixar and
22 Lucasfilm monitored compliance and policed violations. For instance, in 2007, Pixar twice
23 contacted Lucasfilm regarding suspected violations of their agreements. Lucasfilm responded by
24 changing its conduct to conform to its anticompetitive agreements with Pixar.

25 **2. Apple Enters Into A Similar Express Agreement With Adobe**

26 56. Shortly after Pixar entered into the agreements with Lucasfilm, Apple
27 (which was then also under the control of Steve Jobs) entered into an agreement with Adobe that
28 was identical to the first agreement Pixar entered into with Lucasfilm. Apple and Adobe agreed

1 to eliminate competition between them for skilled labor, with the intent and effect of suppressing
2 the compensation and mobility of their employees.

3 57. Beginning no later than May 2005, Apple and Adobe agreed not to cold
4 call each other's employees.

5 58. Senior executives of Apple and Adobe reached the agreement through
6 direct and explicit communications. These executives then actively managed and enforced the
7 agreement through further direct communications.

8 59. The agreement between Apple and Adobe concerned all Apple and all
9 Adobe employees, was not limited by geography, job function, product group, or time period, and
10 was not ancillary to any legitimate collaboration between the companies.

11 60. Senior executives of Apple and Adobe actively concealed their unlawful
12 agreement and their participation in the conspiracy. Employees of Apple and Adobe were not
13 aware of, and did not agree to, these restrictions.

14 61. In complying with the agreement, Apple placed Adobe on its internal "Do
15 Not Call List," which instructed Apple recruiters not to cold call Adobe employees. Adobe
16 included Apple on its internal list of "Companies that are off limits," instructing its employees not
17 to cold call employees of Apple.

18 3. **Apple Enters Into an Express Agreement with Google To Suppress**
19 **Employee Compensation And Eliminate Competition**

20 62. The conspiracy expanded to include Google no later than 2006. Apple and
21 Google agreed to eliminate competition between them for skilled labor, with the intent and effect
22 of suppressing the compensation and mobility of their employees. Senior executives of Apple
23 and Google expressly agreed, through direct communications, not to cold call each other's
24 employees. During 2006, Arthur D. Levinson sat on the boards of both Apple and Google.

25 63. The agreement between Apple and Google concerned all Apple and all
26 Google employees, was not limited by geography, job function, product group, or time period,
27 and was not ancillary to any legitimate collaboration between the companies.
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1 64. Apple and Google actively concealed their agreement and their
2 participation in the conspiracy. Employees were not informed of and did not agree to the
3 restrictions.

4 65. To ensure compliance with the agreement, Apple placed Google on its
5 internal “Do Not Call List,” which instructed Apple employees not to cold call Google
6 employees. In turn, Google placed Apple on its internal “Do Not Cold Call” list, and instructed
7 relevant employees not to cold call Apple employees.

8 66. Senior executives of Apple and Google monitored compliance with the
9 agreement and policed violations. In February and March 2007, Apple contacted Google to
10 complain about suspected violations of the agreement. In response, Google conducted an internal
11 investigation and reported its findings back to Apple.

12 **4. Apple Enters Into Another Express Agreement with Pixar**

13 67. Beginning no later than April 2007, Apple entered into an agreement with
14 Pixar that was identical to its earlier agreements with Adobe and Google. Apple and Pixar agreed
15 to eliminate competition between them for skilled labor, with the intent and effect of suppressing
16 the compensation and mobility of their employees. Senior executives of Apple and Pixar
17 expressly agreed, through direct communications, not to cold call each other’s employees.

18 68. At this time, Steve Jobs continued to exert substantial control over Pixar.
19 On January 24, 2006, Jobs announced that he had agreed to sell Pixar to the Walt Disney
20 Company. After the deal closed, Jobs became the single largest shareholder of the Walt Disney
21 Company, with over 6% of the company’s stock. Jobs thereafter sat on Disney’s board of
22 directors and continued to oversee Disney’s animation businesses, including Pixar.

23 69. The agreement between Apple and Pixar concerned all Apple and all Pixar
24 employees, was not limited by geography, job function, product group, or time period, and was
25 not ancillary to any legitimate collaboration between the companies.

26 70. Apple and Pixar actively concealed their agreement and their participation
27 in the conspiracy. Employees were not informed of and did not agree to the restrictions.
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1 71. To ensure compliance with the agreement, Apple placed Pixar on its
2 internal “Do Not Call List,” which instructed Apple employees not to cold call Pixar employees.
3 Pixar instructed its human resource personnel to adhere to the agreement and to preserve
4 documentary evidence establishing that Pixar had not actively recruited Apple employees.

5 72. Senior executives of Apple and Pixar monitored compliance with the
6 agreement and policed violations.

7 **5. Google Enters Into An Identical Express Agreement With Intel**

8 73. Beginning no later than September 2007, Google entered into an agreement
9 with Intel that was identical to Google’s earlier agreement with Apple, and identical to Apple’s
10 earlier agreements with Adobe and Pixar. Google and Intel agreed to eliminate competition
11 between them for skilled labor, with the intent and effect of suppressing the compensation and
12 mobility of their employees. Senior executives of Google and Intel expressly agreed, through
13 direct communications, not to cold call each other’s employees.

14 74. In 2007, Google CEO Eric Schmidt sat on Apple’s board of directors,
15 along with Arthur D. Levinson, who continued to sit on the boards of both Apple and Google.

16 75. The agreement between Google and Intel concerned all Google and all
17 Intel employees, was not limited by geography, job function, product group, or time period, and
18 was not ancillary to any legitimate collaboration between the companies. Google and Intel
19 actively concealed their agreement and their participation in the conspiracy. Employees were not
20 informed of and did not agree to the restrictions.

21 76. To ensure compliance with the agreement, Google listed Intel on its “Do
22 Not Cold Call” list and instructed Google employees not to cold call Intel employees. Intel also
23 informed its relevant personnel about its agreement with Google, and instructed them not to cold
24 call Google employees.

25 77. Senior executives of Google and Intel monitored compliance with the
26 agreement and policed violations.

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6. Google and Intuit Enter Into Another Express Agreement

78. In June 2007, Google entered into an express agreement with Intuit that was identical to Google’s earlier agreements with Intel and Apple, and identical to the earlier agreements between Apple and Adobe, and between Apple and Pixar. Google and Intuit agreed to eliminate competition between them for skilled labor, with the intent and effect of suppressing the compensation and mobility of their employees. Senior executives of Google and Intuit expressly agreed, through direct communications, not to cold call each other’s employees.

79. Google CEO Eric Schmidt sat on Apple’s board of directors, along with Arthur D. Levinson, who continued to sit on the boards of both Apple and Google.

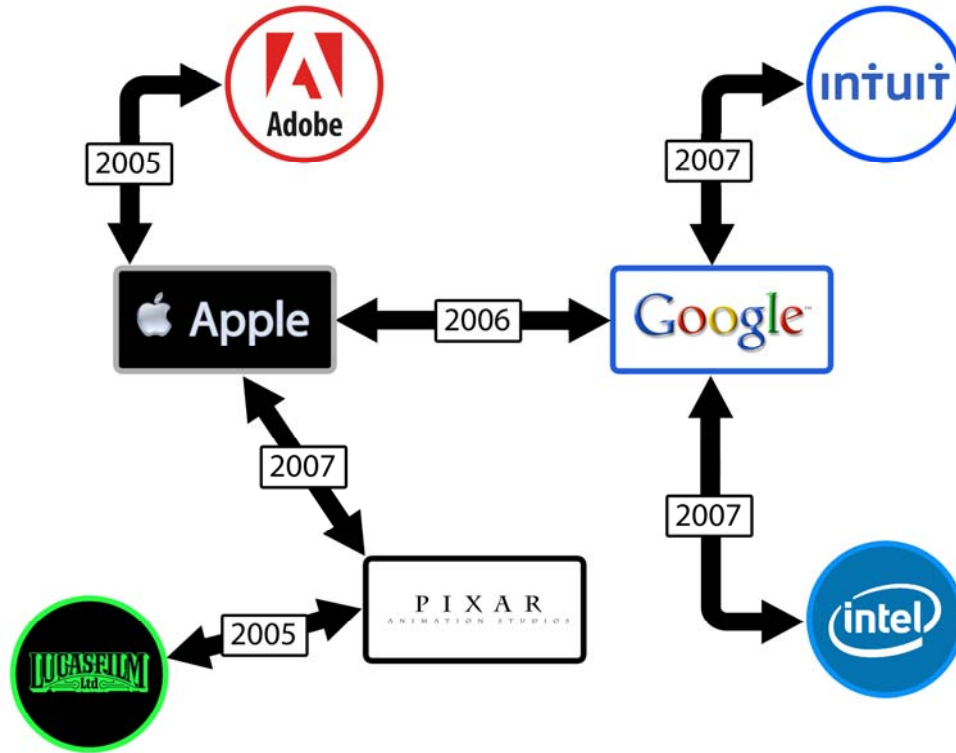
80. The agreement between Google and Intuit concerned all Google and all Intuit employees, was not limited by geography, job function, product group, or time period, and was not ancillary to any legitimate collaboration between the companies. Google and Intuit actively concealed their agreement and their participation in the conspiracy. Employees were not informed of and did not agree to the restrictions.

81. To ensure compliance with the agreement, Google listed Intuit on its “Do Not Cold Call” list and instructed Google employees not to cold call Intuit employees. Intuit also informed its relevant personnel about its agreement with Google, and instructed them not to cold call Google employees.

82. Senior executives of Google and Intuit monitored compliance with the agreement and policed violations.

1 **C. Effects Of Defendants’ Conspiracy On Plaintiff And The Class**

2 83. Defendants eliminated competition for skilled labor by entering into the
3 interconnected web of agreements, and the overarching conspiracy, alleged herein. These
4 agreements are summarized graphically as follows:



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18 Defendants entered into, implemented, and policed these agreements with the knowledge of the
19 overall conspiracy, and did so with the intent and effect of fixing the compensation of the
20 employees of participating companies at artificially low levels. For example, every agreement
21 alleged herein directly involved a company either controlled by Apple’s CEO, or a company that
22 shared a member of its board of directors with Apple. As additional companies joined the
23 conspiracy, competition among participating companies for skilled labor further decreased, and
24 compensation and mobility of the employees of participating companies was further suppressed.
25 These anticompetitive effects were the purpose of the agreements, and Defendants succeeded in
26 lowering the compensation and mobility of their employees below what would have prevailed in
27 a lawful and properly functioning labor market.

1 84. Defendants' conspiracy was an ideal tool to suppress their employees'
2 compensation. Whereas agreements to fix specific and individual compensation packages would
3 be hopelessly complex and impossible to monitor, implement, and police, eliminating entire
4 categories of competition for skilled labor (that affected the compensation and mobility of all
5 employees in a common and predictable fashion) was simple to implement and easy to enforce.

6 85. Plaintiff and each member of the class were harmed by each and every
7 agreement herein alleged. The elimination of competition and suppression of compensation and
8 mobility had a cumulative effect on all class members. For example, an individual who was an
9 employee of Lucasfilm received lower compensation and faced unlawful obstacles to mobility as
10 a result of not only Lucasfilm's illicit agreements with Pixar, but also as a result of Pixar's
11 agreement with Apple, and so on.

12 **D. The Investigation By The Antitrust Division Of The United States**
13 **Department Of Justice And Subsequent Admissions By Defendants**

14 86. Beginning in approximately 2009, the Antitrust Division of the United
15 States Department of Justice (the "DOJ") conducted an investigation into the employment
16 practices of Defendants. The DOJ issued Civil Investigative Demands to Defendants that resulted
17 in Defendants producing responsive documents to the DOJ. The DOJ also interviewed witnesses
18 to certain of the agreements alleged herein.

19 87. After reviewing these materials, the DOJ concluded that Defendants had
20 agreed to naked restraints of trade that were per se unlawful under the antitrust laws. The DOJ
21 found that Defendants' agreements "are facially anticompetitive because they eliminated a
22 significant form of competition to attract high tech employees, and, overall, substantially
23 diminished competition to the detriment of the affected employees who were likely deprived of
24 competitively important information and access to better job opportunities." The DOJ further
25 found that the agreements "disrupted the normal price-setting mechanisms that apply in the labor
26 setting."
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1 88. The DOJ also concluded that Defendants’ agreements “were not ancillary
2 to any legitimate collaboration” and were “much broader than reasonably necessary for the
3 formation or implementation of any collaborative effort.”

4 89. On September 24, 2010, the DOJ filed a complaint regarding Defendants’
5 agreements against Adobe, Apple, Google, Intel, Intuit, and Pixar. On December 21, 2010, the
6 DOJ filed another complaint regarding Defendants’ agreements, this time against Lucasfilm and
7 Pixar. In both cases, the DOJ filed stipulated proposed final judgments in which Adobe, Apple,
8 Google, Intel, Intuit, Lucasfilm, and Pixar agreed that the DOJ’s complaints “state[] a claim upon
9 which relief may be granted” under federal antitrust law.

10 90. In the stipulated proposed final judgments, Adobe, Apple, Google, Intel,
11 Intuit, Lucasfilm, and Pixar agreed to be “enjoined from attempting to enter into, maintaining or
12 enforcing any agreement with any other person or in any way refrain from, requesting that any
13 person in any way refrain from, or pressuring any person in any way to refrain from soliciting,
14 cold calling, recruiting, or otherwise competing for employees of the other person.” Defendants
15 also agreed to a variety of enforcement measures and to comply with ongoing inspection
16 procedures.

17 91. After the DOJ’s investigation became public in the fall of 2010,
18 Defendants acknowledged participating in the agreements the DOJ alleged in its complaints.
19 These acknowledgments included a statement on September 24, 2010 by Amy Lambert, associate
20 general counsel for Google, who stated that, for years, Google had “decided” not to “‘cold call’
21 employees at a few of our partner companies.” Lambert also said that a “number of other tech
22 companies had similar ‘no cold call’ policies—policies which the U.S. Justice Department has
23 been investigating for the past year.”

24 92. The DOJ did not seek monetary penalties of any kind against Defendants,
25 and made no effort to compensate employees of the Defendants who were harmed by Defendants’
26 anticompetitive conduct.

1 trust, and, as a result, have been injured in their property and have suffered damages in an amount
2 according to proof at trial.

3 99. Plaintiff and members of the Class are “persons” within the meaning of the
4 Cartwright Act as defined in section 16702.

5 100. The acts done by each Defendant as part of, and in furtherance of, their
6 contracts, combinations or conspiracies were authorized, ordered, or done by their respective
7 officers, directors, agents, employees, or representatives while actively engaged in the
8 management of each Defendant’s affairs.

9 101. Defendants’ contracts, combinations and/or conspiracies are per se
10 violations of the Cartwright Act.

11 102. Accordingly, Plaintiff and members of the class seek three times their
12 damages caused by Defendants’ violations of the Cartwright Act, the costs of bringing suit,
13 reasonable attorneys’ fees, and a permanent injunction enjoining Defendants’ from ever again
14 entering into similar agreements in violation of the Cartwright Act.

15 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**
16 *(Violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 16600)*

17 103. Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, realleges
18 and incorporates herein by reference each of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs
19 of this Complaint, and further allege against Defendants and each of them as follows:

20 104. Defendants entered into, implemented, and enforced express agreements
21 that are unlawful and void under Section 16600.

22 105. Defendants’ agreements and conspiracy have included concerted action
23 and undertakings among the Defendants with the purpose and effect of: (a) reducing open
24 competition among Defendants for skilled labor; (b) reducing employee mobility; (c) eliminating
25 opportunities for employees to pursue lawful employment of their choice; and (d) limiting
26 employee professional betterment.

1 106. Defendants' agreements and conspiracy are contrary to California's settled
2 legislative policy in favor of open competition and employee mobility, and are therefore void and
3 unlawful.

4 107. Defendants' agreements and conspiracy were not intended to protect and
5 were not limited to protect any legitimate proprietary interest of Defendants.

6 108. Defendants' agreements and conspiracy do not fall within any statutory
7 exception to Section 16600.

8 109. The acts done by each Defendant as part of, and in furtherance of, their
9 contracts, combinations or conspiracies were authorized, ordered, or done by their respective
10 officers, directors, agents, employees, or representatives while actively engaged in the
11 management of each Defendant's affairs.

12 110. Accordingly, Plaintiff and members of the class seek a judicial declaration
13 that Defendants' agreements and conspiracy are void as a matter of law under Section 16600, and
14 a permanent injunction enjoining Defendants' from ever again entering into similar agreements in
15 violation of Section 16600.

16 **THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF**
17 (*Unfair Competition in Violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.*)

18 111. Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, realleges
19 and incorporates herein by reference each of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs
20 of this Complaint, and further alleges against Defendants as follows:

21 112. Defendants' actions to restrain trade and fix the total compensation of their
22 employees constitute unfair competition and unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business acts and
23 practices in violation of California Business and Professional Code sections 17200, et seq.

24 113. The conduct of Defendants in engaging in combinations with others with
25 the intent, purpose, and effect of creating and carrying out restrictions in trade and commerce;
26 eliminating competition among them for skilled labor; and fixing the compensation of their
27 employees at artificially low levels, constitute and was intended to constitute unfair competition

1 and unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business acts and practices within the meaning of California
2 Business and Professions Code section 17200.

3 114. Defendants also violated California's Unfair Competition Law by violating
4 the Cartwright Act and/or by violating Section 16600.

5 115. As a result of Defendants' violations of Business and Professions Code
6 section 17200, Defendants have unjustly enriched themselves at the expense of Plaintiff and the
7 Class. The unjust enrichment continues to accrue as the unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business
8 acts and practices continue.

9 116. To prevent their unjust enrichment, Defendants and their co-conspirators
10 should be required pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 17203 and 17204 to
11 disgorge their illegal gains for the purpose of making full restitution to all injured class members
12 identified hereinabove. Defendants should also be permanently enjoined from continuing their
13 violations of Business and Professions Code section 17200.

14 117. The acts and business practices, as alleged herein, constituted and
15 constitute a common, continuous, and continuing course of conduct of unfair competition by
16 means of unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent business acts or practices within the meaning of
17 California Business and Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.*, including, but in no way limited
18 to, violations of the Cartwright Act and/or Section 16600.

19 118. Defendants' acts and business practices as described above, whether or not
20 in violation of the Cartwright Act and/or Section 16600 are otherwise unfair, unconscionable,
21 unlawful, and fraudulent.

22 119. Accordingly, Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all others similarly
23 situated, requests the following classwide equitable relief:

24 (a) that a judicial determination and declaration be made of the rights
25 of Plaintiff and the class members, and the corresponding responsibilities of Defendants;

26 (b) that Defendants be declared to be financially responsible for the
27 costs and expenses of a Court-approved notice program by mail, broadcast media, and publication
28 designed to give immediate notification to class members; and

1 (c) requiring disgorgement and/or imposing a constructive trust upon
2 Defendants' ill-gotten gains, freezing Defendants' assets, and/or requiring Defendants to pay
3 restitution to Plaintiff and to all members of the class of all funds acquired by means of any act or
4 practice declared by this Court to be an unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent.

5 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

6 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that this Court enter judgment on his behalf and
7 that of the class by adjudging and decreeing that:

8 1. This action may be maintained as a class action under California Code of
9 Civil Procedure section 382 and California Rule of Court 3.760, *et seq.*, certifying Plaintiff as
10 representative of the class and designating his counsel as counsel for the class;

11 2. Defendants have engaged in a trust, contract, combination, or conspiracy in
12 violation of California Business and Professions Code section 16750(a), and that Plaintiff and the
13 members of the class have been damaged and injured in their business and property as a result of
14 this violation;

15 3. The alleged combinations and conspiracy be adjudged and decreed to be
16 per se violations of the Cartwright Act;

17 4. Plaintiff and the members of the class he represents recover threefold the
18 damages determined to have been sustained by them as a result of the conduct of Defendants,
19 complained of herein as provided in California Business and Professions Code section 16750(a),
20 and that judgment be entered against Defendants for the amount so determined;

21 5. The alleged combinations and conspiracy be adjudged void and unlawful
22 under Section 16600;

23 6. The conduct of Defendants constitutes unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent
24 business practices within the meaning of California's Unfair Competition Law, California
25 Business and Professions Code section 17200, *et seq.*;

26 7. Judgment be entered against Defendants and in favor of Plaintiff and each
27 member of the class he represents, for restitution and disgorgement of ill-gotten gains as allowed
28

1 by law and equity as determined to have been sustained by them, together with the costs of suit,
2 including reasonable attorneys' fees;

3 8. For prejudgment and post-judgment interest;

4 9. For equitable relief, including a judicial determination of the rights and
5 responsibilities of the parties;

6 10. For attorneys' fees;

7 11. For costs of suit; and

8 12. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

9 **JURY DEMAND**

10 Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial for all issues so triable.

11
12 Dated: May 4, 2011

LIEFF, CABRASER, HEIMANN & BERNSTEIN, LLP

13
14 By:  DMH

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