

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

ZURU INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

THE INDIVIDUALS, PARTNERSHIPS
AND UNINCORPORATED
ASSOCIATIONS IDENTIFIED ON
SCHEDULE “A”,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: 1:23-cv-03146

**COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

Plaintiff ZURU INC. (“ZURU” or “Plaintiff”), by and through its undersigned counsel, duly admitted members of the bar of this Court, brings this Complaint against Defendants, the individuals, partnerships, and unincorporated associations set forth on Schedule “A” hereto (collectively “Defendants”), who are promoting, selling, offering for sale and distributing goods bearing counterfeits and confusingly similar imitations of Plaintiff’s licensed intellectual property within this district through Aliexpress.com and Amazon.com using the seller identities as set forth on Schedule “A” hereto (the “Seller IDs”), and in support of its claims, alleges as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiff ZURU brings this action for federal trademark counterfeiting and infringement, false designation of origin, common law unfair competition, and common law trademark infringement pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 1114, 1116, and 1125(a), The All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a), and New York common law.

SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

2. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338.

3. This Court also has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1121.

4. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 over the state law claims because those claims are so related to the federal claims that they form part of the same case or controversy.

PERSONAL JURISDICTION

5. Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this district because they purposefully direct their activities toward and conduct business with consumers throughout the United States, including within the state of New York and this district, through online stores at <https://aliexpress.com> (“AliExpress”) and <https://www.amazon.com> (“Amazon”), (collectively the “Platforms”) that are accessible in New York and are operating under Defendants’ Seller IDs.

6. Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this district because their illegal activities directed towards the state of New York cause Plaintiff injury in New York, and Plaintiff’s claims arise out of those activities.

7. NY CPLR § 302, New York’s long arm statute, permits this Court to exercise personal jurisdiction over defendants because they conducted business through the Platforms on the internet intentionally targeting New York consumers.

8. Alternatively, Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this district pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(k)(2) because (i) Defendants are not subject to jurisdiction in any state’s court of general jurisdiction; and (ii) exercising jurisdiction is consistent with the United States Constitution and laws.

VENUE

9. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(3) because Defendants are not residents in the United States and therefore there is no district in which an action may otherwise be brought. Defendants are thus subject to the Court's personal jurisdiction.

10. Venue is proper in this court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 since Defendants are, upon information and belief, aliens who are engaged in infringing activities and causing harm within this district by advertising, offering to sell, selling and/or shipping infringing products to consumers into this district.

THE PLAINTIFF

11. Plaintiff ZURU INC. is a corporation incorporated under the law of the British Virgin Islands and a Hong Kong registered company with offices in Kowloon, Hong Kong.

12. Plaintiff ZURU INC. is the U.S. exclusive licensee of all rights in and to the trademarks described below that are the subject of this action from ZURU (Singapore) PTE, Ltd.

13. ZURU is a disruptive and award-winning company that designs, manufactures and markets innovative toys and consumer products. Inspired by kids and imaginative play, ZURU is one of the fastest growing toy companies in the world and is known for their agility, creativity, and new-age manufacturing techniques. ZURU distributes to all major retailers in over 120 countries and has delighted millions of families all over the world with its extensive brand portfolio and partnerships with entertainment properties, including Nickelodeon, Disney, Universal Studios and DreamWorks.

14. ZURU's products are sold through Amazon.com, Walmart.com, Target.com, Costco.com, Lowes.com, its own websites <https://zuru.com/> and <https://www.bunchoballoons.com/>, and other authorized retailers.

15. Plaintiff offers for sale and sells its products within the state of New York, including this district, and throughout the United States.

16. Like many other intellectual property rights owners and licensees, Plaintiff suffers ongoing daily and sustained violations of its intellectual property rights at the hands of counterfeiters and infringers, such as Defendants herein.

17. Plaintiff is harmed, the consuming public is duped and confused, and the Defendants earn substantial profits in connection with the infringing conduct.

18. In order to combat the harm caused by the combined actions of Defendants and others engaging in similar infringing conduct, Plaintiff expends significant resources in connection with its intellectual property enforcement efforts, including legal fees and investigative fees.

19. The recent explosion of infringement over the Internet has created an environment that requires companies like Plaintiff to expend significant time and money across a wide spectrum of efforts in order to protect both consumers and itself from the ill effects of infringement of Plaintiff's licensed intellectual property rights, including consumer confusion and the erosion of Plaintiff's licensed brands.

PLAINTIFF'S TRADEMARK RIGHTS

20. ZURU has earned an international reputation for quality, reliability, and value and is credited for many breakthroughs that have occurred in the toy industry.

21. ZURU is an exclusive licensee and official source of BUNCH O BALLOONS products in the United States.

22. BUNCH O BALLOONS are water balloons that can be filled as a bunch in seconds. BUNCH O BALLOONS are sold under several federally registered trademarks

including: BUNCH O BALLOONS, BUNCHO and FILL AND TIE UP TO 100 WATER BALLOONS IN 60 SECONDS! (collectively, the “BoB Marks”).

23. Plaintiff is the licensee of all rights in and to the BoB Marks (Standard Characters) shown in the table below, including the exclusive right to pursue acts of infringement worldwide and retain and recover all proceeds thereof.

<u>Mark</u>	<u>U.S. Reg. No.</u>	<u>IC</u>	<u>First Use/ First Use in Commerce</u>	<u>Registration Date</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>
BUNCH O BALLOONS	4709630	28	8/30/2014	3/24/2015	1A
BUNCHO	6086014	28	8/30/2014	6/23/2020	1B
FILL AND TIE UP TO 100 WATER BALLOONS IN 60 SECONDS!	4928737	28	1/15/2015	3/29/2016	1C

24. The BoB Marks are valid and registered in International Class 28 for “water balloons” and “toys, namely, collectible toy figures in the nature of plastic character toys and plush toys; toy models; toy figures; molded plastic toy figurines in the nature of toy animal figurines; character toys, namely, fantasy character toys and plastic character toy monsters; toy vehicles; outfits for toys, namely, articles of clothing for toys; collector cases for toys, namely, cases for action figures; clothes for toys, namely, articles of clothing for toys; glasses for toys, namely, articles of clothing for toys; toy furniture; toy food, namely, modeled plastic toy figurines; toy weapons in the nature of toy guns and toy pistol; Games, namely, board games, card games, and arcade games; Playthings, namely, toy scooters and bean bag toy animals; toys comprising and including fluid fillable containers, namely, balloons; amusements and novelties, namely, paper party favors and fake teeth; play equipment, namely, jungle gyms, and toy action

figures and accessories therefor; play sets for action figures” on the Principal Register of the United States Patent and Trademark Office and shown in Composite Exhibit 1 attached hereto.

25. The BUNCH O BALLOONS and FILL AND TIE UP TO 100 WATER BALLOONS IN 60 SECONDS! Marks are incontestable.

26. The BoB Marks are used in connection with the manufacture and distribution of Plaintiff’s high-quality and unique water balloons.

27. The BoB Marks are displayed on different sides of the colorful and original packaging used for selling the products. Shown below are the BoB Marks as they are used on the packaging for Plaintiff’s products.





28. The BoB Marks have been used in interstate commerce to identify and distinguish Plaintiff's high-quality and unique water balloon products for an extended period of time.

29. The BoB Marks have been used by Plaintiff for a long time prior to Defendants' use of copies of those trademarks.

30. The BoB Marks have never been assigned or licensed to any of the Defendants.

31. The BoB Marks are a symbol of Plaintiff's quality goods, reputation and goodwill and have never been abandoned.

32. Plaintiff has carefully monitored and policed the use of the BoB Marks.

33. The BoB Marks are well known and famous (as that term is used in 15 U.S.C. §1125(c)(1)) and have been for many years.

34. Plaintiff has expended substantial time, money and other resources developing, advertising and otherwise promoting the BoB Marks and the water balloons bearing or using those Marks.

35. Plaintiff has extensively used, advertised, and promoted the BoB Marks in the United States in association with the sale of high-quality and unique water balloons.

36. Plaintiff has spent substantial resources promoting the BoB Marks and water balloons bearing or using the BoB Marks.

37. In recent years, sales of products bearing the BoB Marks have exceeded a million dollars within the United States.

38. As a result of Plaintiff's efforts, members of the consuming public readily identify merchandise bearing or sold under the BoB Marks as being high-quality and unique water balloons sponsored and approved by Plaintiff.

39. Accordingly, the BoB Marks have achieved secondary meaning as identifiers of high-quality and unique water balloons.

40. Genuine water balloons bearing or sold under the BoB Marks are widely legitimately advertised and promoted by Plaintiff, its authorized distributors, and unrelated third parties via the Internet.

41. Visibility on the Internet, particularly via Internet search engines such as Google, Yahoo!, and Bing has become increasingly important to Plaintiff's overall marketing and consumer education efforts.

42. Thus, Plaintiff expends significant monetary resources on Internet marketing and consumer education, including search engine optimization ("SEO") strategies.

43. Plaintiff's SEO strategies allow Plaintiff and its authorized retailers to fairly and legitimately educate consumers about the value associated with Plaintiff's products and the goods marked with the BoB Marks.

PLAINTIFF'S PRIOR SUCCESSFUL TRADEMARK COUNTERFEITING CASES

44. Plaintiff and its parent company ZURU (Singapore) PTE, Ltd., along with related entities, have previously filed actions in federal district court in this district in an attempt to stop the flow of counterfeit goods into the United States bearing Plaintiff's licensed trademarks.

45. A list of prior trademark counterfeiting actions filed by Plaintiff is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

46. Courts in the prior trademark counterfeiting cases filed by Plaintiff have issued Temporary Restraining Orders and Preliminary Injunctions against the Defendants named in those cases who were selling counterfeit goods bearing Plaintiff's licensed trademarks on internet e-commerce platforms.

DEFENDANTS

47. Defendants have the capacity to be sued pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 17(b).

48. Defendants are individuals and/or business entities of unknown makeup, each of whom, upon information and belief, either resides and/or operates in foreign jurisdictions, redistributes products from the same or similar sources in those locations, and/or ships their goods from the same or similar sources in those locations to shipping and fulfillment centers within the United States to redistribute their products from those locations.

49. Defendants are engaged in business in New York but have not appointed an agent for service of process.

50. Upon information and belief, Defendants have registered, established or purchased, and maintained their Seller IDs.

51. Defendants target their business activities toward consumers throughout the United States, including within this district, through their commercial operation at Aliexpress.com and Amazon.com under the Seller IDs.

52. Defendants are the past and present controlling forces behind the sale of products bearing counterfeits and infringements of Plaintiff's licensed trademarks as described herein operating and using at least the Seller IDs.

53. Defendants directly engage in unfair competition with Plaintiff by advertising, offering for sale, and selling goods bearing counterfeits and infringements of Plaintiff's licensed trademarks to consumers within the United States and this district through Aliexpress.com and Amazon.com using, at least, the Seller IDs and additional names, websites, or seller identification aliases not yet known to Plaintiff.

54. Defendants have purposefully directed some portion of their illegal activities towards consumers in the State of New York through the advertisement, offer to sell, sale, and/or shipment of counterfeit and infringing goods into the State.

55. Upon information and belief, Defendants may have engaged in fraudulent conduct with respect to the registration of the Seller IDs by providing false and/or misleading information to AliExpress and Amazon where they offer to sell and/or sell during the registration or maintenance process related to their respective Seller IDs.

56. Upon information and belief, many Defendants registered and maintained their Seller IDs for the sole purpose of engaging in illegal counterfeiting activities.

57. Upon information and belief, Defendants will likely continue to register or acquire new seller identification aliases for the purpose of selling and offering for sale counterfeits and infringements of Plaintiff's licensed trademarks unless preliminarily and permanently enjoined.

58. Defendants use their AliExpress-based and Amazon.com-based businesses to infringe the intellectual property rights of Plaintiff and others.

59. Defendants' business names, i.e., the Seller IDs, associated payment accounts, and any other alias seller identification names or e-commerce stores used in connection with the sale of counterfeits and infringements of Plaintiff's licensed trademarks are essential components of

Defendants' online activities and are one of the means by which Defendants further their counterfeiting and infringement scheme and cause harm to Plaintiff.

60. Defendants use individual seller store names, product denominations and descriptive content containing one or more of the BoB Marks, and these names, denominations and content are indexed on search engines and compete directly with Plaintiff for space in search results.

61. The appearance of Defendants' individual seller stores at Aliexpress.com and Amazon.com in search engine results undermines Plaintiff's efforts to educate consumers about the value of products sold under the BoB Marks.

62. Defendants are using counterfeits and infringements of Plaintiff's licensed trademarks to drive Internet consumer traffic to their individual seller stores at Aliexpress.com and Amazon.com operating under the Seller IDs, thereby increasing the value of the Seller IDs and decreasing the size and value of Plaintiff's legitimate marketplace and intellectual property rights at Plaintiff's expense.

63. Defendants, through the sale and offer to sell counterfeit and infringing products, are directly, and unfairly, competing with Plaintiff's economic interests in the State of New York and causing Plaintiff harm and damage within this jurisdiction.

64. The natural and intended byproduct of Defendants' actions is the erosion and destruction of the goodwill associated with Plaintiff's licensed trademarks and the destruction of the legitimate market sector in which it operates.

65. Upon information and belief, at all times relevant hereto, Defendants had actual or constructive knowledge of Plaintiff's licensed trademarks, including Plaintiff's exclusive right to use such intellectual property rights.

JOINDER OF DEFENDANTS IN THIS ACTION IS PROPER

66. Defendants are the individuals, partnerships, and unincorporated associations set forth on Schedule “A” hereto.

67. Defendants are promoting, selling, offering for sale and distributing goods bearing or using counterfeits and confusingly similar imitations of Plaintiff’s intellectual property within this district.

68. Joinder of all Defendants is permissible based on the permissive party joinder rule of Fed. R. Civ. P. 20(a)(2) that permits the joinder of persons in an action as Defendants where any right to relief is asserted against them jointly, severally, or in the alternative with respect to or arising out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or occurrences; and any question of law or fact common to all defendants will arise in the action.

69. Joinder of the multiple Defendants listed in Schedule “A” attached hereto is permitted because Plaintiff asserts rights to relief against these Defendants jointly, severally, or in the alternative with respect to or arising out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or occurrences; and common questions of law or fact will arise in the action.

70. Joinder of the multiple Defendants listed in Schedule “A” attached hereto serves the interests of convenience and judicial economy, which will lead to a just, speedy, and inexpensive resolution for Plaintiff, Defendants, and this Court.

71. Joinder of the multiple Defendants listed in Schedule “A” attached hereto will not create any unnecessary delay nor will it prejudice any party. On the other hand, severance is likely to cause delays and prejudice Plaintiff and Defendants alike.

72. Joinder of the multiple Defendants listed in Schedule “A” is procedural only and does not affect the substantive rights of any Defendant listed on Schedule “A” hereto.

73. This court has jurisdiction over the multiple Defendants listed in Schedule “A” hereto. Venue is proper in this court for this dispute involving the multiple Defendants listed in Schedule “A” hereto.

74. Plaintiff’s claims against the multiple Defendants listed in Schedule “A” are all transactionally related.

75. Plaintiff is claiming counterfeiting and piracy against Defendants of Plaintiff’s intellectual property rights.

76. The actions of all Defendants cause indivisible harm to Plaintiff by Defendants’ combined actions engaging in similar counterfeiting conduct when each is compared to the others.

77. All Defendants’ actions are logically related. All Defendants are all engaging in the same systematic approach of establishing online storefronts to redistribute illegal products from the same or similar sources while maintaining financial accounts that the defendants can easily conceal to avoid any real liability for their actions.

78. All Defendants are located in foreign jurisdictions, mostly China.

79. All Defendants are undertake efforts to conceal their true identities from Plaintiff in order to avoid detection for their illegal counterfeiting activities.

80. All Defendants have the same or closely related sources for their counterfeit products with some sourcing from the same upstream source and others sourcing from downstream sources who obtain counterfeit products from the same upstream sources.

81. All Defendants take advantage of the anonymity and mass reach the internet affords to sell counterfeit goods across international borders and violate Plaintiff’s intellectual property rights with impunity.

82. All Defendants have registered their Seller ID's with a small number of online platforms for the purpose of engaging in counterfeiting.

83. All Defendants use payment and financial accounts associated with their online storefronts or the online platforms where their online storefronts reside.

84. All Defendants use their payment and financial accounts to accept, receive, and deposit profits from their counterfeiting activities.

85. All Defendants can easily and quickly transfer or conceal funds in their payment and financial accounts to avoid detection and liability in the event that the Plaintiff's anti-counterfeiting efforts are discovered or Plaintiff obtains a monetary award.

86. All Defendants violated one or more of the Plaintiff's intellectual property rights in the United States by the use of common or identical methods.

87. All Defendants understand that their ability to profit through anonymous internet stores is enhanced as their numbers increase, even though they may not all engage in direct communication or coordination.

88. Many of the Defendants are operating multiple internet storefronts and online marketplace seller accounts using different Seller IDs listed on Schedule "A". As a result, there are more Seller IDs than there are Defendants, a fact that will emerge in discovery.

89. Defendants' business names, i.e., the Seller IDs, associated payment accounts, and any other alias seller identification names or e-commerce stores used in connection with the sale of counterfeits and infringements of Plaintiff's intellectual property rights are essential components of Defendants' online activities and are one of the means by which Defendants further their counterfeiting and infringement scheme and cause harm to Plaintiff.

90. Defendants are using counterfeits and infringements of Plaintiff's intellectual property rights to drive Internet consumer traffic to their e-commerce stores operating under the Seller IDs, thereby increasing the value of the Seller IDs and decreasing the size and value of Plaintiff's legitimate marketplace and intellectual property rights at Plaintiff's expense.

91. Defendants, through the sale and offer to sell counterfeit and infringing products, are directly, and unfairly, competing with Plaintiff's economic interests in the state of New York and causing Plaintiff harm and damage within this jurisdiction.

92. The natural and intended byproduct of Defendants' logically related actions is the erosion and destruction of the goodwill associated with Plaintiffs' intellectual property rights and the destruction of the legitimate market sector in which it operates.

93. Upon information and belief, at all times relevant hereto, Defendants had actual or constructive knowledge of Plaintiff's intellectual property rights, including Plaintiff's exclusive right to use and license such intellectual property rights.

DEFENDANTS' INFRINGING ACTIVITIES

94. Defendants are promoting, advertising, distributing, selling, and/or offering for sale cheap copies of Plaintiff's water balloons in interstate commerce that are counterfeits and infringements of Plaintiff's licensed intellectual property rights (the "Counterfeit Goods") through Aliexpress.com and Amazon.com operating under the Seller IDs.

95. Specifically, Defendants are using one or more of the BoB Marks to initially attract online customers and drive them to Defendants' individual seller stores at AliExpress.com and Amazon.com operating under the Seller IDs.

96. Defendants are using identical copies of one or more of the BoB Marks for different quality goods.

97. Plaintiff has used the BoB Marks extensively and continuously before Defendants began offering counterfeit and confusingly similar imitations of Plaintiff's merchandise.

98. Defendants' Counterfeit Goods are of a quality substantially different than that of Plaintiff's genuine goods.

99. Defendants are actively using, promoting and otherwise advertising, distributing, selling and/or offering for sale substantial quantities of their Counterfeit Goods with the knowledge and intent that such goods will be mistaken for the genuine high-quality and unique water balloons offered for sale by Plaintiff, despite Defendants' knowledge that they are without authority to use the BoB Marks.

100. The net effect of Defendants' actions is likely to cause confusion of consumers, at the time of initial interest, sale, and in the post-sale setting, who will believe all of Defendants' goods offered for sale on Defendants' individual seller stores at Aliexpress.com and Amazon.com are genuine goods originating from, associated with, and approved by Plaintiff.

101. Defendants advertise their e-commerce stores, including their Counterfeit Goods offered for sale, to the consuming public via individual seller stores at AliExpress.com and Amazon.com operating under, at least, the Seller IDs.

102. In so advertising their stores and products, Defendants improperly and unlawfully use one or more of the BoB Marks without Plaintiff's permission.

103. As part of their overall infringement and counterfeiting scheme, most Defendants are, upon information and belief, concurrently employing and benefitting from substantially similar advertising and marketing strategies based in large measure upon an illegal use of counterfeits and infringements of one or more of the BoB Marks.

104. Specifically, Defendants are using counterfeits and infringements of one or more of the BoB Marks in order to make their individual seller stores at Aliexpress.com and Amazon.com selling illegal goods appear more relevant and attractive to consumers searching for both Plaintiff's goods and goods sold by Plaintiff's competitors online.

105. By their actions, Defendants are contributing to the creation and maintenance of an illegal marketplace operating in parallel to the legitimate marketplace for Plaintiff's genuine goods at Amazon.com.

106. Defendants are causing individual, concurrent and indivisible harm to Plaintiff and the consuming public by (i) depriving Plaintiff and other third parties of their right to fairly compete for space within search engine results and reducing the visibility of Plaintiff's genuine goods on the World Wide Web, (ii) causing an overall degradation of the value of the goodwill associated with the BoB Marks, and (iii) increasing Plaintiff's overall cost to market its goods and educate consumers via the Internet.

107. Defendants are concurrently conducting and targeting their counterfeiting and infringing activities toward consumers and likely causing unified harm within this district and elsewhere throughout the United States.

108. As a result, Defendants are defrauding Plaintiff and the consuming public for Defendants' own benefit.

109. Upon information and belief, at all times relevant hereto, Defendants in this action had full knowledge of Plaintiff's license of the BoB Marks, including its exclusive right to use such intellectual property and the goodwill associated therewith.

110. Defendants' use of one or more of the BoB Marks, including the promotion and advertisement, reproduction, distribution, sale and offering for sale of their Counterfeit Goods, is without Plaintiff's consent or authorization.

111. Defendants are engaging in the above-described illegal counterfeiting and infringing activities knowingly and intentionally or with reckless disregard or willful blindness to Plaintiff's licensed trademarks for the purpose of trading on Plaintiff's goodwill and reputation.

112. If Defendants' intentional counterfeiting and infringing activities are not preliminarily and permanently enjoined by this Court, Plaintiff and the consuming public will continue to be harmed.

113. Defendants' infringing activities are likely to cause confusion, deception, and mistake in the minds of consumers before, during and after the time of purchase.

114. Defendants' wrongful conduct is likely to create a false impression and deceive customers, the public, and the trade into believing there is a connection or association between Plaintiff's genuine goods and Defendants' Counterfeit Goods, which there is not.

115. Defendants' payment and financial accounts, including but not limited to those specifically set forth on Schedule "A," are being used by Defendants to accept, receive, and deposit profits from Defendants' counterfeiting and infringing, and their unfairly competitive activities connected to their Seller IDs at Amazon.com.

116. Defendants are likely to transfer or secret their assets to avoid payment of any monetary judgment awarded to Plaintiff.

117. Plaintiff is suffering irreparable injury and has suffered substantial damages as a result of Defendants' unauthorized and infringing activities and their wrongful use of Plaintiff's licensed trademarks.

118. If Defendants' counterfeiting and infringing, and unfairly competitive activities are not preliminarily and permanently enjoined by this Court, Plaintiff and the consuming public will continue to be harmed.

119. The harm and damages sustained by Plaintiff have been directly and proximately caused by Defendants' wrongful reproduction, use, advertisement, promotion, offers to sell, and sale of their Counterfeit Goods.

120. Defendants have sold their infringing products in competition directly with Plaintiff's genuine products.

121. Plaintiff should not have any competition from Defendants because Plaintiff never authorized Defendants to use Plaintiff's licensed trademarks.

122. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

COUNT I – TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT (15 U.S.C. § 1114)

123. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 122 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

124. This is an action for trademark counterfeiting and infringement against Defendants based on their use of counterfeit and confusingly similar imitations of one or more of the BoB Marks in commerce in connection with the promotion, advertisement, distribution, offering for sale and sale of the Counterfeit Goods.

125. Defendants are promoting and otherwise advertising, selling, offering for sale, and distributing goods bearing and/or using counterfeits and/or infringements of one or more of the BoB Marks.

126. Defendants are continuously infringing and inducing others to infringe one or more of the BoB Marks by using them to advertise, promote, sell, and offer to sell counterfeit and infringing goods.

127. Defendants' concurrent counterfeiting and infringing activities are likely to cause and actually are causing confusion, mistake, and deception among members of the trade and the general consuming public as to the origin and quality of Defendants' Counterfeit Goods.

128. Defendants' unlawful actions have caused and are continuing to cause unquantifiable damages to Plaintiff and are unjustly enriching Defendants with profits at Plaintiff's expense.

129. Defendants' above-described illegal actions constitute counterfeiting and infringement of one or more of the BoB Marks in violation of Plaintiff's licensed rights under § 32 of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1114.

130. Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable injury and damages due to Defendants' above-described activities if Defendants are not preliminarily and permanently enjoined.

131. If not preliminarily and permanently enjoined, Defendants will continue to wrongfully profit from their illegal activities.

COUNT II – FALSE DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a))

132. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 122 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

133. Upon information and belief, Defendants sold or offered for sale Counterfeit Goods bearing or using copies of one or more of the BoB Marks which have been widely advertised and offered for sale throughout the United States via AliExpress.com and Amazon.com.

134. Defendants' Counterfeit Goods bearing or using copies of one or more of the BoB Marks are virtually identical in appearance to Plaintiff's genuine goods.

135. Defendants' Counterfeit Goods are different in quality from Plaintiff's goods, and are of much lower quality.

136. Defendants' activities are likely to cause confusion in the trade and among the general public as to at least the origin or sponsorship of their Counterfeit Goods.

137. Defendants, upon information and belief, have used in connection with their advertisement, offer for sale, and sale of their Counterfeit Goods, false designations of origin and false descriptions and representations, including words or other symbols and trade dress, which tend to falsely describe or represent such goods and have caused such goods to enter into commerce with full knowledge of the falsity of such designations of origin and such descriptions and representations, all to Plaintiff's detriment.

138. Defendants have authorized infringing uses of one or more of the BoB Marks in Defendants' advertisement and promotion of their counterfeit and infringing branded goods.

139. Defendants have misrepresented to members of the consuming public that the Counterfeit Goods being advertised and sold by them are genuine, non-infringing goods.

140. Defendants are using counterfeits and infringements of one or more of the BoB Marks in order to unfairly compete with Plaintiff and others for space within organic search engine results and social media results, thereby jointly depriving Plaintiff of a valuable marketing and educational tool which would otherwise be available to Plaintiff and reducing the visibility of Plaintiff's genuine goods on the internet and across social media platforms.

141. Defendants' above-described actions are in violation of Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. §1125(a).

142. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law, and has sustained indivisible injury and damage caused by Defendants' concurrent conduct.

143. Absent an entry of an injunction by this Court, Defendants will continue to wrongfully reap profits and Plaintiff will continue to suffer irreparable injury to its goodwill and business reputation, as well as monetary damages.

COUNT III – COMMON LAW UNFAIR COMPETITION

144. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 122 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

145. This is an action against Defendants based on their promotion, advertisement, distribution, sale and/or offering for sale of goods bearing marks that are virtually identical to one or more of the BoB Marks in violation of New York's common law of unfair competition.

146. Defendants' activities complained of herein constitute unfair methods of competition.

147. Specifically, Defendants are promoting and otherwise advertising, selling, offering for sale and distributing goods using or bearing counterfeits and infringements of one or more of the BoB Marks.

148. Defendants are also using counterfeits and infringements of one or more of the BoB Marks to unfairly compete with Plaintiff and others for (1) space in search engine and social media results across an array of search terms and (2) visibility on the Internet.

149. Defendants' infringing activities are likely to cause and actually are causing confusion, mistake and deception among members of the trade and the general consuming public as to the origin and quality of Defendants' individual seller stores at Aliexpress.com and Amazon.com and all products sold therein by their use of the BoB Marks.

150. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law and is suffering irreparable injury and damages as a result of Defendants' actions.

COUNT IV – COMMON LAW TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT

151. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 122 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

152. This is an action for common law trademark infringement against Defendants based on their promotion, advertisement, offering for sale, and sale of their Counterfeit Goods bearing or using one or more of the BoB Marks.

153. Plaintiff is the exclusive licensee of all common law rights in and to the BoB Marks.

154. Defendants, upon information and belief, are promoting, and otherwise advertising, distributing, offering for sale, and selling goods bearing infringements of one or more of the BoB Marks.

155. Defendants' infringing activities are likely to cause and actually are causing confusion, mistake and deception among members of the trade and the general consuming public as to the origin and quality of Defendants' Counterfeit Goods bearing or using one or more of the BoB Marks.

156. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law and is suffering damages and irreparable injury as a result of Defendants' actions.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment on all Counts of this Complaint and an award of equitable relief and monetary relief against Defendants as follows:

- a. Entry of temporary, preliminary, and permanent injunctions pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1116 and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65 enjoining Defendants, their agents, representatives, servants, employees, and all those acting in concert or participation therewith, from manufacturing or causing to be manufactured, importing, advertising or promoting, distributing,

selling or offering to sell their Counterfeit Goods; from infringing, counterfeiting, or diluting the BoB Marks; from using the BoB Marks, or any mark or design similar thereto, in connection with the sale of any unauthorized goods; from using any logo, trade name or trademark or design that may be calculated to falsely advertise the services or goods of Defendants as being sponsored by, authorized by, endorsed by, or in any way associated with Plaintiff; from falsely representing themselves as being connected with Plaintiff, through sponsorship or association, or engaging in any act that is likely to falsely cause members of the trade and/or of the purchasing public to believe any goods or services of Defendants, are in any way endorsed by, approved by, and/or associated with Plaintiff; from using any reproduction, counterfeit, infringement, copy, or colorable imitation of the BoB Marks in connection with the publicity, promotion, sale, or advertising of any goods sold by Defendants; from affixing, applying, annexing or using in connection with the sale of any goods, a false description or representation, including words or other symbols tending to falsely describe or represent Defendants' goods as being those of Plaintiff, or in any way endorsed by Plaintiff and from offering such goods in commerce; from engaging in search engine optimization strategies using colorable imitations of Plaintiff's name or trademarks and from otherwise unfairly competing with Plaintiff.

- b. Entry of a Temporary Restraining Order, as well as preliminary and permanent injunctions pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a), The All Writs Act,

and the Court's inherent authority, enjoining Defendants and all third parties with actual notice of the injunction issued by this Court from participating in, including providing financial services, technical services or other support to, Defendants in connection with the sale and distribution of non-genuine goods bearing and/or using counterfeits of the BoB Marks.

- c. Entry of an Order pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a), The All Writs Act, and the Court's inherent authority that, upon Plaintiff's request, the governing AliExpress.com and Amazon.com operators and/or administrators for the Seller IDs who are provided with notice of an injunction issued by this Court disable and/or cease facilitating access to the Seller IDs and any other alias seller identification names being used and/or controlled by Defendants to engage in the business of marketing, offering to sell, and/or selling goods bearing or using counterfeits and infringements of the BoB Marks.
- d. Entry of an Order pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a), The All Writs Act, and this Court's inherent authority that, upon Plaintiff's request, any messaging service and AliExpress.com and Amazon.com operators, administrators, registrar and/or top level domain (TLD) registry for the Seller IDs who are provided with notice of an injunction issued by this Court identify any e-mail address known to be associated with Defendants' respective Seller IDs.
- e. Entry of an Order pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a), The All Writs Act, and this Court's inherent authority that upon Plaintiff's request,

AliExpress.com and Amazon.com operators and/or administrators who are provided with notice of an injunction issued by this Court permanently remove from the multiple platforms, which include, *inter alia*, a direct platform, group platform, seller product management platform, vendor product management platform, and brand registry platform, any and all listings and associated images of goods bearing or using counterfeits and/or infringements of the BoB Marks via the individual seller stores at AliExpress.com and Amazon.com operating under the Seller IDs, including but not limited to the listings and associated images identified by the “parent” and/or “child” Amazon Standard Identification Numbers (“ASIN”) on Schedule “A” annexed hereto, and upon Plaintiff’s request, any other listings and images of goods bearing or using counterfeits and/or infringements of the BoB Marks associated with any ASIN/Product ID linked to the same sellers or linked to any other alias seller identification names being used and/or controlled by Defendants to promote, offer for sale and/or sell goods bearing and/or using counterfeits and/or infringements of the BoB Marks.

- f. Entry of an Order pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a), The All Writs Act and this Court’s inherent authority that, upon Plaintiff’s request, Defendants and AliExpress.com and Amazon.com operators and/or administrators who are provided with notice of an injunction issued by this Court immediately cease fulfillment of and sequester all goods of each Defendant bearing or

using the BoB Marks in its inventory, possession, custody, or control, and surrender those goods to Plaintiff.

- g. Entry of an Order requiring Defendants to correct any erroneous impression the consuming public may have derived concerning the nature, characteristics, or qualities of their products, including without limitation, the placement of corrective advertising and providing written notice to the public.
- h. Entry of an Order requiring Defendants to account to and pay Plaintiff for all profits and damages resulting from Defendants' trademark counterfeiting and infringing and unfairly competitive activities and that the award to Plaintiff be trebled, as provided for under 15 U.S.C. § 1117, or, at Plaintiff's election with respect to Count I, that Plaintiff be awarded statutory damages from each Defendant in the amount of two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) per each counterfeit trademark used and product sold, as provided by 15 U.S.C. § 1117(c)(2) of the Lanham Act.
- i. Entry of an award pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1117 (a) and (b) of Plaintiff's costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and investigative fees, associated with bringing this action, including the cost of corrective advertising.
- j. Entry of an Order that, upon Plaintiff's request, Defendants and any financial institutions, payment processors, banks, escrow services, money transmitters, or AliExpress.com and Amazon.com platforms, and their related companies and affiliates, identify and restrain all funds, up to and including the total amount of judgment, in all financial accounts and/or

sub-accounts used in connection with the Seller IDs, or other alias seller identification or e-commerce store names used by Defendants presently or in the future, as well as any other related accounts of the same customer(s) and any other accounts which transfer funds into the same financial institution account(s) and remain restrained until such funds are surrendered to Plaintiff in partial satisfaction of the monetary judgment entered herein.

- k. Entry of an award of pre-judgment interest on the judgment amount.
- l. Entry of an Order for any further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

DATED: April 14, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joel B. Rothman

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