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8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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11	FEDERAL TRADE)Case No. EDCV 11-01623 VAPCOMMISSION,)(SPx)
12	) Plaintiff, ) <b>JUDGMENT AND PERMANENT</b>
13	) <b>INJUNCTION</b>
14	) RINCON MANAGEMENT )
15	SERVICES, LLC, ET. AL. )
16	Defendants.
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18	TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:
19	Pursuant to the Order filed herewith, IT IS ORDERED
20	AND ADJUDGED that a Judgment and Permanent Injunction is
21	entered in favor of Plaintiff, the Federal Trade
22	Commission, and against Defendants Rincon Management
23	Services, LLC, also d/b/a "Rincon Debt Management,"
24	"Rincon Filing Services," and "Pacific Management
25	Recovery,"; Prime West Management Recovery, LLC; Union
26	Management Services, LLC, also d/b/a "Union Filing
27	Services,"; National Filing Services, LLC; City
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Investment Services, LLC; Global Filing Services, LLC; 1 2 and Pacific Management Recovery, LLC, as follows: 3 I. DEFINITIONS 4 For the purposes of this Order, the following 5 definitions shall apply: 6 7 1. "Business Entity Defendants" means Rincon 8 Management Services, LLC, also d/b/a "Rincon Debt 9 Management, " "Rincon Filing Services, " and "Pacific 10 Management Recovery, "; Prime West Management Recovery, 11 LLC; Union Management Services, LLC, also d/b/a "Union 12 Filing Services, "; National Filing Services, LLC; City 13 Investment Services, LLC; Global Filing Services, LLC; 14 and Pacific Management Recovery, LLC, by whatever other 15 names each may be known, and their successors and 16 assigns, as well as any subsidiaries and any fictitious 17 business entities or business names created or used by 18 these entities, or any of them. 19 20 2. "Consumer" means any natural person. 21 22 3. "Credit repair services" means using any 23 instrumentality of interstate commerce or the mails to 24 sell, provide, or perform any service, in return for the 25 payment of money or other valuable consideration, for the 26 express or implied purpose of (a) improving any 27 consumer's credit record, credit history, or credit 28 2

1 rating, or (b) providing advice or assistance to any 2 consumer with regard to any activity or service described 3 in clause (a).

4. "Debt" means any obligation or alleged obligation
to pay money arising out of a transaction, whether or not
such obligation has been reduced to judgment.

9 5. "Debt collection activities" means any activities 10 of a debt collector to collect or attempt to collect, 11 directly or indirectly, a debt owed or due, or asserted 12 to be owed or due, another.

14 6. "Debt collector" means any person who uses any 15 instrumentality of interstate commerce or the mails in 16 any business the principal purpose of which is the 17 collection of any debts, or who regularly collects or 18 attempts to collect, directly or indirectly, debts owed 19 or due or asserted to be owed or due another. The term also includes any creditor who, in the process of 20 collecting its own debts, uses any name other than its 21 22 own which would indicate that a third person is 23 collecting or attempting to collect such debts. The term 24 also includes any person to the extent such person 25 receives an assignment or transfer of a debt in default 26 solely for the purpose of facilitating collection of such 27 debt.

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7. "Defendants" means all of the Defendants set forth
 in the First Amended Complaint, individually,
 collectively, or in any combination.

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5 8. "Financial-related product or service" means any product, service, plan, or program represented, expressly 6 7 or by implication, to: (a) provide to any consumer, arrange for any consumer to receive, or assist any 8 consumer in receiving, an extension of consumer credit; 9 10 (b) provide to any consumer, arrange for any consumer to receive, or assist any consumer in receiving, credit 11 repair services; (c) provide to any consumer, arrange for 12 13 any consumer to receive, or assist any consumer in 14 receiving, any secured or unsecured debt relief product or service. 15

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9. "Person" means a natural person, organization, or
other legal entity, including a corporation, partnership,
proprietorship, association, cooperative, or any other
group or combination acting as an entity.

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10. "Receiver" means Richard Weissman appointed as
Receiver in the Preliminary Injunction in this matter
[Doc. No. 40].

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26 11. "Receivership Defendants" means the following 27 entities under receivership pursuant to the Preliminary 28

Injunction [Dkt. 40]: Rincon Management Services, LLC 1 2 also d/b/a "Rincon Debt Management," "Rincon Filing Services, " and "Pacific Management Recovery"; Prime West 3 Management Recovery, LLC; Union Management Services, LLC 4 5 also d/b/a "Union Filing Services"; National Filing Services, LLC; City Investment Services, LLC; Global 6 7 Filing Services, LLC; Pacific Management Recovery, LLC; 8 Nationwide FilingServices, Inc.; Worldwide Filing 9 Services, Inc.; Maple Filing Services, LLC; Southcoast 10 Financial Services, Inc.; National Filing Services, LLC; 11 Raincross Filing Services, Inc.; Pacific Management and 12 Recovery, LLC; Prime Western Investments, LLC; Universal 13 Filing Services, Inc.; Rockwell Management Services, LLC; 14 Asset Filing Services, Inc.; Eagle Filing Services, LLC; Capital Filing Services, Inc.; County Filing Services, 15 16 Inc.; Irvine Group & Associates; Statewide Associates Group; Superior Filing Services, Inc.; West Coast Filing 17 18 Services, Inc.; Bagels Consulting Firm, Inc.; Lunsford 19 Investment and Management Services, Inc.; Debt Marketing 20 Solutions, LLC; Debt Tech Solutions, LLC; Heavy Hitters Investments, Inc.; Heavy Hitters Motors, Inc.; Heavy 21 22 Hitters Real Estate, Inc.; Portfolio Investment Partners, 23 LP; Portfolio Investments Partners, Inc.; Portfolio Investment Group, LP; Portfolio Investment Financial, 24 25 Inc.; Skyridge Legacy Trust (Jason R. Begley, Trustee); 26 WAL Legacy Trust (Wayne Lunsford, Trustee); Spiff Money 27 Legacy Gift Trust (Wayne Lunsford, Trustee); JRB 28

Intellect, LLC; JBEG, LLC; LAL Intellect, LLC; Heavy
 Hitters Spiff Money Management Corp.; Spiff Management,
 Inc., and each of them by whatever names they might be
 known.

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12. "Secured or unsecured debt relief product or 6 7 service" means, with respect to any mortgage, loan, debt, 8 or obligation between a person and one or more secured or unsecured creditors or debt collectors, any product, 9 10 service, plan, or program represented, expressly or by 11 implication, to (a) negotiate, settle, or in any way 12 alter the terms of payment or other terms of the mortgage, loan, debt, or obligation, including but not 13 14 limited to, a reduction in the amount of interest, principal balance, monthly payments, or fees owed by a 15 16 person to a secured or unsecured creditor or debt 17 collector; (b) stop, prevent, or postpone any mortgage or 18 deed of foreclosure sale for a person's dwelling, any 19 other sale of collateral, any repossession of a person's 20 dwelling or other collateral, or otherwise save a person's dwelling or other collateral from foreclosure or 21 repossession; (c) obtain any forbearance or modification 22 23 in the timing of payments from any secured or unsecured holder of any mortgage, loan, debt, or obligation; (d) 24 25 negotiate, obtain, or arrange any extension of the period 26 of time within which the person may (i) cure his or her 27 default on the mortgage, loan, debt, or obligation, (ii)

reinstate his or her mortgage, loan, debt, or obligation, 1 2 (iii) redeem a dwelling or other collateral, or (iv) 3 exercise any right to reinstate the mortgage, loan, debt, or obligation or redeem a dwelling or other collateral; 4 5 (e) obtain any waiver of an acceleration clause or balloon payment contained in any promissory note or 6 7 contract secured by any dwelling or other collateral; or 8 (f) negotiate, obtain, or arrange (i) a short sale of a dwelling or other collateral, (ii) a deed-in-lieu of 9 foreclosure, or (iii) any other disposition of a 10 11 mortgage, loan, debt, or obligation other than a sale to 12 a third party that is not the secured or unsecured loan 13 holder. The foregoing shall include any manner of claimed 14 assistance, including, but not limited to, auditing or 15 examining a person's application for the mortgage, loan, 16 debt, or obligation. 17 18 II. DEBT COLLECTION BAN 19 IT IS ORDERED that the Business Entity Defendants are 20 permanently restrained and enjoined from: 21 22 A. Engaging in debt collection activities; 23 24 B. Assisting others engaged in debt collection activities; and 25 26 27 28 7

C. Advertising, marketing, promoting, offering for sale, selling, or assisting others engaged in the advertising, marketing, promoting, offering for sale, or selling, of any portfolio of consumer or commercial debt and any program that gathers, organizes, or stores consumer information relating to a debt or debt collection activities.

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## III. PROHIBITED MISREPRESENTATIONS RELATING TO FINANCIAL-RELATED PRODUCTS OR SERVICES

11 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Business Entity 12 Defendants, Business Entity Defendants' officers, agents, 13 servants, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons 14 in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting 15 16 directly or indirectly, in connection with the advertising, marketing, promotion, offering for sale or 17 18 sale of any financial related product or service, are 19 permanently restrained and enjoined from:

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A. Misrepresenting or assisting others in
misrepresenting, expressly or by implication, any
material fact, including but not limited to:

241. The terms or rates that are available for any25loan or other extension of credit;

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2. Any person's ability to improve or otherwise
 affect a consumer's credit record, credit history, credit
 rating, or ability to obtain credit;

3. That any person can improve any consumer's
credit record, credit history, or credit rating by
permanently removing negative information from the
consumer's credit record, credit history, or credit
rating, even where such information is accurate and not
obsolete;

4. Any aspect of any secured or unsecured debt 10 11 relief product or service, including but not limited to, 12 the amount of savings a consumer will receive from 13 purchasing, using, or enrolling in such secured or 14 unsecured debt relief product or service; the amount of time before which a consumer will receive settlement of 15 16 that consumer's debts; or the reduction or cessation of collection calls: 17

18 5. That a consumer will receive legal19 representation;

20 6. That any particular outcome or result from a
21 financial-related product or service is guaranteed,
22 assured, highly likely or probable, or very likely or
23 probable;

7. The nature or terms of any refund,
cancellation, exchange, or repurchase policy, including,
but not limited to, the likelihood of a consumer
obtaining a full or partial refund, or the circumstances

1 in which a full or partial refund will be provided to the 2 consumer; and

8. Any other fact material to consumers
concerning any financial-related product or service, such
as: the total costs; any material restrictions,
limitations, or conditions; or any material aspect of its
performance, efficacy, nature, or central
characteristics; and

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B. Advertising or assisting others in advertising
credit terms other than those terms that actually are or
will be arranged or offered by a creditor or lender.

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14 IV. MONETARY JUDGMENT AS TO BUSINESS ENTITY DEFENDANTS
 15 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

A. Judgment is hereby entered against the Business Entity Defendants, jointly and severally, in the amount of \$23,395,653.99. This amount shall become immediately due and payable by the Business Entity Defendants upon entry of this Order, and interest computed at the rate prescribed under 28 U.S.C. § 1961, as amended, shall immediately begin to accrue on the unpaid balance;

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B. All funds paid pursuant to this Order shall be deposited into a fund administered by the Commission or its agent to be used for equitable relief, including, but not limited to, consumer redress, and any attendant

expenses for the administration of any redress fund. If a 1 2 representative of the Commission decides that direct 3 redress to consumers is wholly or partially impracticable or money remains after redress is completed, the 4 5 Commission may apply any remaining money for such other equitable relief (including consumer information 6 7 remedies) as it determines to be reasonably related to 8 Business Entity Defendants' practices alleged in the 9 Amended Complaint. Any money not used for such equitable relief is to be deposited to the U.S. Treasury as 10 11 disgorgement. Business Entity Defendants have no right to 12 challenge any actions the Commission or its 13 representatives may take pursuant to this Subsection.

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15 C. Business Entity Defendants relinquish all legal and equitable right, title, and interest in all assets 16 17 held by the Receiver including those in the name of and 18 for the benefit of the Business Entity Defendants and any Receivership Defendant. After satisfaction of any 19 20 Court-authorized payments to the Receiver, the Receiver shall transfer the Business Entity Defendants' remaining 21 22 assets and the net proceeds, if any, from the sale of any 23 remaining assets belonging to the Business Entity 24 Defendants to the Commission. Business Entity Defendants shall make no claim to or demand for return of the funds, 25 26 directly or indirectly, through counsel or otherwise. 27

## V. CUSTOMER INFORMATION

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Business Entity Defendants, Business Entity Defendants' officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, are permanently restrained and enjoined from directly or indirectly:

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9 A. Failing to provide sufficient customer information
10 to enable the Commission to administer efficiently
11 consumer redress. If a representative of the Commission
12 requests in writing any information related to redress,
13 Business Entity Defendants must provide it, in the form
14 prescribed by the Commission, within 14 days.

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16 B. Disclosing, using, or benefitting from customer information, including the name, address, telephone 17 18 number, email address, social security number, other identifying information, or any data that enables access 19 20 to a consumer's account (including a credit card, bank account, credit report, or other financial account) that 21 22 any Business Entity Defendant obtained prior to entry of 23 this Order in connection with the collection of consumer 24 debt; and

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26 C. Failing to destroy such customer information in 27 all forms in their possession, custody, or control within 28 30 days after receipt of written direction to do so from
 a representative of the Commission.

Provided, however, that customer information need not be disposed of, and may be disclosed, to the extent requested by a government agency or required by a law, regulation, or court order.

VI. ORDER ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

10IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Business Entity Defendants11obtain acknowledgments of receipt of this Order:

A. Each Business Entity Defendant, within 7 days of
entry of this Order, must submit to the Commission an
acknowledgment of receipt of this Order sworn under
penalty of perjury.

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18 B. For 15 years after entry of this Order, each 19 Business Entity Defendant for any business that such 20 Business Entity Defendant is the majority owner or controls directly or indirectly, must deliver a copy of 21 22 this Order to: (1) all principals, officers, directors, 23 and LLC managers and members; (2) all employees, agents, 24 and representatives who participate in the collection of 25 consumer debt; and (3) any business entity resulting from 26 any change in structure as set forth in the Section 27 titled Compliance Reporting. Delivery must occur within 7 28

1 days of entry of this Order for current personnel. For 2 all others, delivery must occur before they assume their 3 responsibilities.

C. From each individual or entity to which a Business
Entity Defendant delivered a copy of this Order, that
Business Entity Defendant must obtain, within 30 days, a
signed and dated acknowledgment of receipt of this Order.

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## VII. COMPLIANCE REPORTING

11 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Business Entity12 Defendants make timely submissions to the Commission:

14 A. One year after entry of this Order, each Business Entity Defendant must submit a compliance report, sworn 15 16 under penalty of perjury, each Business Entity Defendant 17 must: (a) identify the primary physical, postal, and 18 email address and telephone number, as designated points 19 of contact, which representatives of the Commission may 20 use to communicate with Business Entity Defendant; (b) identify all of that Business Entity Defendant's 21 22 businesses by all of their names, telephone numbers, and 23 physical, postal, email, and Internet addresses; (c) 24 describe the activities of each business, including the goods and services offered, the means of advertising, 25 26 marketing, and sales, and the involvement of any other 27 Defendant (which Business Entity Defendants must describe 28

1 if they know or should know due to their own 2 involvement); (d) describe in detail whether and how that 3 Business Entity Defendant is in compliance with each 4 Section of this Order; and (e) provide a copy of each 5 Order Acknowledgment obtained pursuant to this Order, 6 unless previously submitted to the Commission.

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8 B. For 20 years following entry of this Order, each
9 Business Entity Defendant must submit a compliance
10 notice, sworn under penalty of perjury, within 14 days of
11 any change in the following:

1. Each Business Entity Defendant must report 12 13 any change in: (a) any designated point of contact; or 14 (b) the structure of any entity that Business Entity 15 Defendant has any ownership interest in or controls 16 directly or indirectly that may affect compliance 17 obligations arising under this Order, including: 18 creation, merger, sale, or dissolution of the entity or 19 any subsidiary, parent, or affiliate that engages in any 20 acts or practices subject to this Order.

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C. Each Business Entity Defendant must submit to the Commission notice of the filing of any bankruptcy petition, insolvency proceeding, or any similar proceeding by or against such Defendant within 14 days of its filing.

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D. Any submission to the Commission required by this Order to be sworn under penalty of perjury must be true and accurate and comply with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, such as by concluding: "I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on:\_\_\_\_\_" and supplying the date, signatory's full name, title, and signature.

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E. Unless otherwise directed by a Commission 9 10 representative in writing, all submissions to the 11 Commission pursuant to this Order must be emailed to DEbrief@ftc.gov or sent by overnight courier (not the 12 13 U.S. Postal Service) to: Associate Director for 14 Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade 15 Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 16 20580. The subject line must begin: FTC v. Rincon 17 Management Services, et al., X120019.

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## VIII. RECORDKEEPING

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Business Entity Defendants must create certain records for 20 years after entry of the Order, and retain each such record for 5 years. Specifically, each Business Entity Defendant for any business that such Business Entity Defendant is a majority owner or controls directly or indirectly, must create and retain the following records:

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A. Accounting records showing the revenues from all 1 2 qoods or services 3 sold; 4 5 B. Personnel records showing, for each person providing services, whether as an employee or otherwise, 6 7 that person's: name; addresses; telephone numbers; job title or position; dates of service; and (if applicable) 8 the reason for termination; 9 10 11 C. Records of all consumer complaints and refund requests, whether received directly or indirectly, such 12 13 as through a third party, and any response; and 14 15 D. All records necessary to demonstrate full 16 compliance with each provision of this Order, including all submissions to the Commission. 17 18 19 IX. COMPLIANCE MONITORING 20 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, for the purpose of monitoring the Business Entity Defendants' compliance 21 22 with this Order: 23 24 A. Within 14 days of receipt of a written request 25 from a representative of the Commission, each Business 26 Entity Defendant must: submit additional compliance 27 reports or other requested information, which must be 28 17

sworn under penalty of perjury; appear for depositions; and produce documents for inspection and copying. The Commission is also authorized to obtain discovery, without further leave of court, using any of the procedures prescribed by Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 29, 30 (including telephonic depositions), 31, 33, 34, 36, 45, and 69.

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B. For matters concerning this Order, the Commission
is authorized to communicate directly with each Business
Entity Defendant. The Business Entity Defendants permit
representatives of the Commission to interview any
employee or other person affiliated with any Business
Entity Defendant who has agreed to such an interview. The
person interviewed may have counsel present.

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17 C. The Commission may use all other lawful means, 18 including posing, through its representatives, as 19 consumers, suppliers, or other individuals or entities, 20 to Business Entity Defendants, or any individual or entity affiliated with Business Entity Defendants, 21 22 without the necessity of identification or prior notice. Nothing in this Order limits the Commission's lawful use 23 24 of compulsory process, pursuant to Sections 9 and 20 of 25 the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 49, 57b-1. 26

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1	X. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION
2	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Court retains
3	jurisdiction of this matter for purposes of construction,
4	modification, and enforcement of this Order.
5	Vignie a. Phillips
6	Dated: <u>May 2, 2014</u>
7	VIRGINIA A. PHILLIPS United States District Judge
8	United States District Budge
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