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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

AARON BREWER, ET AL.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., et al.,
Defendants.

Case No. 16-cv-02664-HSG

**ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS'
MOTION TO DISMISS**

Re: Dkt. No. 8

I. BACKGROUND

A. Factual Allegations¹

Plaintiffs Aaron Brewer and Della Chambers Brewer (“Plaintiffs”) have filed suit against Defendants Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. (“Wells Fargo”) and The Bank of New York Mellon (“BNYM”), in its capacity as trustee for the World Savings Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduit (“REMIC”) Trust, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 29 (“REMIC Trust”), regarding their home loan with Wells Fargo’s predecessor-in-interest, World Savings Bank, FSB (“WSB”). See Dkt. No. 1, Ex. A (“Compl.”).

i. Loan Agreement

Plaintiffs entered into a loan agreement with WSB on March 12, 2007. Compl. ¶ 7. WSB sold Plaintiffs’ loan to the REMIC Trust—a mortgage-backed securities trust set up under New York law—on April 27, 2007. Id. ¶ 8. BNYM served as the trustee for the REMIC Trust. Id. According to Plaintiffs, New York law required WSB to transfer the loan documents to the REMIC Trust within 90 days of the closing date, but no public records show that this transfer occurred. Id. ¶ 9.

¹ Defendants’ unopposed request for judicial notice, Dkt. No. 9, is granted. See Fed. R. Evid. 201(b).

1 **ii. Information Requests**

2 On May 19, 2015, Plaintiffs sent Wells Fargo a Qualified Written Request (“QWR”) and
3 Debt Dispute Letter under the Real Estate Settlement Practices Act, 12 U.S.C. § 2605(e)
4 (“RESPA”), in an attempt to ascertain who owned their loan. Id. ¶ 10. The QWR also asserted
5 Plaintiffs’ rights under Regulation X of the Mortgage Servicing Act (“Regulation X”), which is a
6 component of the Dodd-Frank Act under RESPA. Id. Wells Fargo responded to the QWR on
7 June 18, 2015. Compl. ¶ 12. It stated that it was searching for responsive information and that the
8 QWR was overbroad. Id. Perceiving this to be a deficient response, on June 9, 2015, Plaintiffs
9 filed a complaint with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Id. ¶ 13. Wells Fargo
10 acknowledged the inquiry. Id. On July 1, 2015, Wells Fargo provided Plaintiffs with a copy of
11 their promissory note (the “Note”). Id. ¶ 14. The copy of their Note contained a one-page
12 addendum that was not included in the note they originally executed. Id. The addendum
13 contained two different signatures: one from Wells Fargo and one from WSB. Id. The WSB
14 signature was stamped “CANCELLED.” Id.

15 On July 5, 2015, Plaintiffs sent Wells Fargo a second QWR, which Wells Fargo
16 acknowledged it received. Id. ¶ 15. Wells Fargo responded on August 4, 2015, stating that it had
17 already provided Plaintiffs with a copy of the Note and refusing to provide any additional
18 information. Id.

19 **B. Procedural History**

20 Plaintiffs filed this suit in state court on February 4, 2016. See Dkt. No. 1. Defendants
21 removed the action to this Court on May 17, 2016. Id. Plaintiffs’ first claim seeks a declaratory
22 judgment stating that: (1) their deed of trust (“DOT”) became void when it was transferred into the
23 REMIC Trust after the trust’s closing date elapsed, Compl. ¶ 21; and (2) in the alternative, their
24 DOT became void under California Civil Code § 1558 because the parties to the DOT are not
25 identifiable. Id. ¶¶ 22-23. Plaintiffs’ second claim is for violation of RESPA. Plaintiffs contend
26 that Defendants violated 12 U.S.C. § 2605(e), which governs QWRs, when they failed to timely
27 provide a satisfactory response to Plaintiffs’ two QWRs. Id. ¶¶ 26-27. Plaintiffs’ third claim for
28 violation of Regulation X, as well as their fourth claim for violation of the Uniform Commercial

1 Code (“UCC”), rely on the same factual basis as their RESPA claim. Id. ¶¶ 31-33. For each of
2 these four claims, Plaintiffs also assert derivative violations of California’s Unfair Competition
3 Law (“UCL”) for unlawful and unfair practices. Compl. ¶¶ 34-39.

4 On the basis of each of their claims, Plaintiffs request that the Court enjoin Defendants
5 from foreclosing on their property, and seek compensatory and punitive damages.

6 **II. LEGAL STANDARD**

7 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a) requires that a complaint contain “a short and plain
8 statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief[.]” A defendant may move to
9 dismiss a complaint for failing to state a claim upon which relief can be granted under Federal
10 Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6). “Dismissal under Rule 12(b)(6) is appropriate only where the
11 complaint lacks a cognizable legal theory or sufficient facts to support a cognizable legal theory.”
12 *Mendiondo v. Centinela Hosp. Med. Ctr.*, 521 F.3d 1097, 1104 (9th Cir. 2008). To survive a Rule
13 12(b)(6) motion, a plaintiff must plead “enough facts to state a claim to relief that is plausible on
14 its face.” *Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 540, 570 (2007). A claim is facially plausible
15 when a plaintiff pleads “factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that
16 the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged.” *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009).

17 In reviewing the plausibility of a complaint, courts “accept factual allegations in the
18 complaint as true and construe the pleadings in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party,”
19 *Manzarek v. St. Paul Fire & Marine Ins. Co.*, 519 F.3d 1025, 1031 (9th Cir. 2008), but do not
20 “accept as true allegations that are merely conclusory, unwarranted deductions of fact, or
21 unreasonable inferences.” *In re Gilead Scis. Secs. Litig.*, 536 F.3d 1049, 1055 (9th Cir. 2008).

22 **III. DISCUSSION**

23 **A. Foreclosure Standing and Declaratory Relief**

24 As an initial matter, Defendants contend that Plaintiffs lack standing to bring a pre-
25 foreclosure “challenge to Wells Fargo’s interest in the mortgage and its ‘standing’ to foreclose.”
26 Mot. at 3. The California Supreme Court recently addressed the question of whether a borrower
27 has standing to challenge an assignment after foreclosure proceedings have been initiated, but in
28 doing so, expressly left open the question of whether a borrower can use a lawsuit to preempt a

1 non-judicial foreclosure. See *Yvanova v. New Century Mortg. Corp.*, 62 Cal. 4th 919, 934 (2016)
2 (“[D]isallowing the use of a lawsuit to preempt a nonjudicial foreclosure[] is not within the scope
3 of our review[.]”). By limiting its decision in this way, the *Yvanova* Court left untouched that
4 portion of the California Court of Appeal’s decision in *Jenkins v. JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.*,
5 which held that any attempt to preemptively block a non-judicial foreclosure is invalid under
6 California law.² 216 Cal. App. 4th 497, 513 (2013); *Yvanova*, 62 Cal. 4th at 934.

7 The plaintiff in *Jenkins* sought, as here, a declaratory judgment that an assignment to an
8 investment trust was void because it occurred after the closing date of the trust. 216 Cal. App. 4th
9 at 511. The Court found that such an action was impermissible because it would “create the
10 ‘additional requirement’ that the foreclosing entity must ‘demonstrate in court that it is authorized
11 to initiate a foreclosure’ before the foreclosure can proceed,” which would undermine the entire
12 non-judicial foreclosure system. *Id.* at 512 (quoting *Gomes v. Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.*, 192
13 Cal. App. 4th 1149, 1154 (2011)). But, as *Jenkins* also noted, the *Gomes* Court stated that such a
14 preemptive action might be permissible where there was a “specific factual basis” to allege that
15 the foreclosure was not initiated by the correct party. *Id.* (quoting *Gomes*, 192 Cal. App. 4th at
16 1154 (emphasis original)).

17 With the question of borrower standing in the pre-foreclosure context thus far unanswered
18 by the California Supreme Court, several courts in this district have attempted to predict how
19 California’s highest court would resolve it. See, e.g., *Lundy v. Selene Finance, LP*, No. 15-cv-
20 05676, 2016 WL 1059423, at *13 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 17, 2016). In *Lundy*, the Court held that in the
21 future the California Supreme Court will likely limit *Jenkins* to block only those pre-foreclosure
22 challenges that “lack any ‘specific factual basis’ for bringing their claims.” *Id.* The *Lundy* Court
23 reached this conclusion by reviewing *Gomes*, which held that the non-judicial foreclosure system
24 is only impaired by preemptive actions when there is no specific factual basis to challenge the

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26 ² In arguing to the contrary, Plaintiffs rely primarily on *Glaski v. Bank of America, N.A.*, 219 Cal.
27 App. 4th 1079 (2013), which was adopted by the Court in *Yvanova* with regard to whether a
28 wrongful foreclosure plaintiff has standing to challenge a void assignment to the foreclosing
entity. Dkt. No. 16 (“Opp.”) at 5. However, like *Yvanova*, that portion of the *Glaski* opinion is
inapplicable to this case because it addresses a post-foreclosure situation.

1 impending foreclosure. *Id.* at **11-13.

2 Lundy has been followed by several courts in this district. See *Powell v. Wells Fargo*
3 *Home Mortg.*, No. 14-cv-04248-MEJ, 2016 WL 1718189, at *8 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 29, 2016) (Judge
4 James) (“As is apparent, the Court finds Judge Tigar’s analysis of this issue and ultimate
5 conclusion [in Lundy] well-reasoned and the most probable outcome of the California Supreme
6 Court’s potential ruling on such issues. Accordingly, the Court adopts it here, and thus turns to
7 whether Plaintiff has alleged a ‘specific factual basis’ for challenging Defendant’s authority to
8 initiate the foreclosure.”); *Reed v. Wilmington Trust, N.A.*, No. 16-cv-01933, 2016 WL 3124611,
9 at *4 (N.D. Cal. Jun. 3, 2016) (Judge White) (“The Court will not repeat Judge Tigar’s lengthy
10 analysis of the issue, but it too finds it well-reasoned and persuasive. Therefore, for the reasons
11 articulated in Lundy, the Court rejects Defendants’ argument that a plaintiff does not have standing
12 to assert a claim for wrongful foreclosure based on alleged defects in the assignment, simply
13 because the trustee’s sale has not yet occurred.”). This Court also finds Lundy well-reasoned and
14 persuasive, and adopts its analysis of this issue here. See *Lundy*, 2016 WL 1059423, at **8-13.

15 Having thus established that Plaintiffs may preemptively challenge Wells Fargo’s ability to
16 foreclose, the Court must consider whether Plaintiffs have alleged a ‘specific factual basis’ for
17 challenging Defendants’ authority to initiate the foreclosure. Plaintiffs raise two arguments in this
18 regard.

19 First, Plaintiffs contend that WSB’s assignment to the REMIC Trust was void as a matter
20 of New York trust law because the trust did not accept the loan until after the trust was closed.
21 Compl. ¶ 21 (citing *Glaski v. Bank of Am.*, 218 Cal. App. 4th 1079, 1097 (2013) (holding that
22 where a trustee of a securitized trust accepts a note and mortgage after the date the trust closed, the
23 acceptance is void under New York trust law)). However, while neither the California Supreme
24 Court nor the New York Supreme Court have yet decided whether such a transfer would render an
25 assignment void, or voidable, under New York law, the Second Circuit has held that such an
26 improper transfer renders an assignment merely voidable. See *Rajamin v. Deutsche Bank Nat’l*
27 *Trust Co.*, 757 F.3d 79, 88 (2nd Cir. 2014) (rejecting Glaski’s rationale and stating that the
28 “weight of New York authority is contrary to plaintiff’s contention that any failure to comply with

1 the terms of the [trust agreement] rendered defendant’s acquisition of plaintiffs’ loans and
2 mortgages void as a matter of trust law”). The Ninth Circuit has since followed Rajamin in two
3 unpublished memorandum dispositions and held that “an act in violation of a trust agreement is
4 voidable—not void—under New York law” *Morgan v. Aurora Loan Servs., LLC*, 646 Fed.
5 Appx. 546, 550 (9th Cir. 2016) (citing Rajamin, 757 F.3d at 87-90); see also *Banares v. Wells*
6 *Fargo Bank, NA*, --- Fed. Appx. ---, 2017 WL 943934, at *1 (9th Cir. Mar. 10, 2017).³ Recent
7 California Court of Appeal decisions have similarly so held. See *Saterbak v. JPMorgan Chase*
8 *Bank, N.A.*, 245 Cal. App. 4th 808, 815 (2016) (“Yvanova recognizes borrower standing only
9 where the defect in the assignment renders the assignment void, rather than voidable,” but
10 “expressly offers no opinion as to whether, under New York law, an untimely assignment to a
11 securitized trust made after the trust’s closing date is void or merely voidable. We conclude such
12 an assignment is merely voidable.”); *Mendoza v. JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.*, 6 Cal. App. 5th
13 802, 805 (2016) (“New York law, as interpreted by an overwhelming majority of New York,
14 California, and federal courts, [] provides that defects in the securitization of loans can be ratified
15 by the beneficiaries of the trusts established to hold the mortgage-backed securities and, as a
16 result, the assignments are voidable.”). Several courts in this district have also followed Rajamin.
17 See, e.g., *Patel v. U.S. Bank, N.A.*, No. 13-cv-00748, 2016 WL 4013861, at **2-3 (N.D. Cal. Jul.
18 27, 2016) (Judge Kim); *Reed*, 2016 WL 3124611, at *5 (Judge White). The Court agrees that the
19 allegedly defective assignment was merely voidable, and that Plaintiffs thus fail to state a claim.
20 The Court therefore **GRANTS** Defendants’ motion as to this claim and finds that leave to amend
21 would be futile.

22 Plaintiffs’ second declaratory relief claim alleges that that their DOT became void under
23 California Civil Code § 1558 because the parties to the DOT are not identifiable. Compl. ¶¶ 22-
24 23. While it is true that in California “[i]t is essential to the validity of a contract, not only that the
25 parties exist, but that it should be possible to identify them,” “[c]ontracts are void for certainty
26 only if their terms are so uncertain and indefinite that the intention of the parties . . . cannot be

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28 ³ While these and the other unpublished dispositions cited in this order are not precedent, the
Court may consider them for their persuasive value. Fed. R. App. P. 32.1; CTA9 Rule 36-3.

1 ascertained.” *Jacobson v. Aurora Loan Servs., LLC*, 661 Fed. Appx. 474, 476 (9th Cir. 2016)
2 (quoting Cal. Civ. Code § 1558; *Cal. Lettuce Grower, Inc. v. Union Sugar Co.*, 45 Cal. 2d 474,
3 481 (1955)). Plaintiffs here admit that “Wells Fargo provided [them] with a copy of their
4 Promissory Note” in response to their QWRs. Compl. ¶ 14. However, Plaintiffs attempt to create
5 confusion regarding the parties to the Note based on the order of signatures on the document. *Id.*;
6 see also *id.*, Ex. E. The Court is unpersuaded. Instead, it is clear from the face of the signature
7 page that BNYM’s signature has been stamped “CANCELLED” and Wells Fargo’s signature has
8 replaced it, regardless of the order in which they appear or whether Plaintiffs have been able to
9 pinpoint the exact date of the assignment. *Id.*, Ex. E. The parties are thus plainly identifiable.
10 Furthermore, any argument that Wells Fargo must produce its papers to show that it is the proper
11 foreclosing entity prior to initiating foreclosure proceedings has been rejected by the California
12 Courts of Appeal on several occasions. See, e.g., *Jenkins*, 216 Cal. App. 4th at 512 (“[T]he
13 foreclosing beneficiary-creditor need not produce the promissory note or otherwise prove it holds
14 the note to nonjudicially foreclose on a real property security.”) (citing *Debrunner v. Deutsche*
15 *Bank Nat’l Trust Co.*, 204 Cal. App. 4th 433, 440-42 (2012)). It follows that if Defendants are not
16 required to produce the Note before initiating a foreclosure, Plaintiffs cannot prospectively enjoin
17 a foreclosure based on the purported violation of not producing the Note. Accordingly, the Court
18 finds that Plaintiffs’ request for declaratory relief on this basis also fails, and **GRANTS**
19 Defendants’ motion on this claim without leave to amend because it fails as a matter of law.

20 **B. RESPA, Regulation X, UCC, and UCL Claims**

21 Plaintiffs’ second, third, and fourth claims share the same factual predicate that Defendants
22 failed to timely respond to Plaintiffs’ QWRs. Compl. ¶¶ 25-39.

23 **i. RESPA and Regulation X**

24 Plaintiffs contend that under RESPA and Regulation X,⁴ Wells Fargo was required to
25 respond to Plaintiffs’ request for information about the owner of their loan within ten days and to
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27 ⁴ The Court notes that while Plaintiffs separate their claims with regard to “RESPA” and
28 “Regulation X,” both claims are governed by RESPA, as Regulation X is merely a part of the
RESPA statute.

1 their requests for all other information within 30 days. 12 C.F.R. §§ 1024.36(d)(2)(i)(A)-
2 (d)(2)(i)(B). However, Defendants contend that Plaintiffs’ QWRs were overly broad, such that
3 Wells Fargo was not required to respond under 12 C.F.R §§ 1024.36(f)(1)(iv) and 1024.35(g)(ii).
4 Mot. at 7.

5 While RESPA “provides plaintiffs with a private right of action for . . . the failure by a
6 loan servicer . . . to respond to a [QWR] for information about a loan,” *Gomes v. Wells Fargo*
7 *Home Mortg.*, No. C 11–01725 LB, 2011 WL 5834949, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 21, 2011) (internal
8 quotation marks omitted), it does not require loan servicers to respond when they “reasonably
9 determine” that a request is overbroad or unduly burdensome, see 12 C.F.R § 1024.36(f). “An
10 information request is overbroad if a borrower requests that the servicer provide an unreasonable
11 volume of documents or information to a borrower.” *Id.* § 1024.36(f)(1)(iv).

12 Plaintiffs attached the relevant QWR to their complaint. See *Compl.*, Ex. B. It consists of
13 18 single-spaced pages of legal arguments and requests for documents and responses, including
14 several questions amounting to requests for a “complete life of loan transactional history,” which
15 courts in this circuit have found overbroad. See *id.*; see also *Derusseau v. Bank of Am., N.A.*, 2011
16 WL 5975821, at *4 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 29, 2011) (finding a QWR overly broad where it “request[ed]
17 a ‘complete life of loan transactional history,’ the ‘Transaction Codes for the software platform of
18 the Servicer,’ and the ‘Key Loan Transaction history, bankruptcy work sheet (if any), or any
19 summary of all the accounts in an XL spreadsheet format.’”); *Junger v. Bank of America, N.A.*,
20 No. CV 11–10419 CAS (VBKx), 2012 WL 603262, at *5 (C.D. Cal. Jan. 24, 2012). Plaintiffs’
21 requests included, for example, “[a]ll data, [i]nformation, notations, text, figures and information
22 contained in [Wells Fargo’s] mortgage servicing and accounting computer systems including, but
23 not limited to Alitel or Fidelity CPI System, or any other similar mortgage servicing software used
24 by [Wells Fargo], any servicers, or sub-servicers of this mortgage account from inception of this
25 account to the date [of the QWR].” *Compl.*, Ex. B at 15.

26 However, “[t]o the extent a servicer can reasonably identify a valid information request in
27 a submission that is otherwise overbroad or unduly burdensome, the servicer shall comply with the
28 requirements of paragraphs (c) and (d) of [that] section with respect to that requested

1 information.” 12 C.F.R 1024.36(f)(1)(iv). In this regard, while Plaintiffs allege that Wells Fargo
2 could have attempted to answer some of their questions rather than relying on “[t]he flat assertion .
3 . . . that every single one of [their] detailed questions [was] somehow too broad,” they nevertheless
4 fail to identify any specific questions they reasonably could have expected Wells Fargo to answer,
5 or additional documents that Wells Fargo should have produced, in response to an appropriately
6 scoped and specific QWR. See Compl. ¶ 27; see also 12 C.F.R 1024.36(f)(1)(iv), Supplement I to
7 Part 1024—Official Bureau Interpretations, comment 36(f)(1)(iv), “Examples of Overbroad or
8 Unduly Burdensome Requests for Information,” as published in 78 FR 10695 (Feb. 14, 2013)
9 (stating that requests for information (1) “that seek documents relating to substantially all aspects
10 of mortgage origination, mortgage servicing, mortgage sale or securitization, and foreclosure”; (2)
11 “are not reasonably understandable or are included with voluminous tangential discussion”; (3)
12 purport to require servicers to provide information in specific formats . . . when such information
13 is not ordinarily stored in such formats”; and (4) are not reasonably likely to assist a borrower with
14 the borrower’s account, including, for example, a request for copies of the front and back of all
15 physical payment instruments,” are overbroad or unduly burdensome). Because (1) Plaintiffs’
16 facially overbroad requests sought a broad range of documents that went well beyond the limited
17 subject matter of a valid QWR, (2) Wells Fargo provided Plaintiffs with a copy of their
18 promissory note in response to the QWRs, and (3) the complaint lacks any specificity as to what in
19 particular was insufficient about Wells Fargo’s response, the Court **GRANTS** Defendants’ motion
20 to dismiss Plaintiffs’ RESPA and Regulation X claims. See *Menashe v. Bank of New York*, 850
21 Fed. Supp. 2d 1120, 1132 (D. Haw. 2012). Plaintiffs are granted leave to amend the complaint to
22 specify what Plaintiff contends was the “valid information request” that Defendants should have
23 been able to “reasonably identify” within the purported QWRs at issue, and identify the particular
24 information and documents Defendants should have supplied but did not in response to those
25 requests.⁵

26 _____
27 ⁵ In addition, any amended complaint should explicitly plead facts that could support a finding that
28 Plaintiffs suffered causal damages arising from Defendants’ failure to respond to their QWRs
within the allotted time frame, as required by RESPA. See *Lawthner v. Onewest Bank*, 2010 WL
4936797, at *7 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 30, 2010) (“It is the Plaintiff’s pleading requirement to point to

1 ii. UCC

2 Plaintiffs’ fourth cause of action alleges that under UCC § 3-501, “when a party makes a
3 demand of a borrower under a mortgage, . . . [the] party must present the instrument and give
4 ‘reasonable evidence of authority’ to demand payment upon the instrument.” Compl. ¶ 35.
5 Plaintiffs contend that Wells Fargo’s failure to respond to their QWRs thus “constitutes a refusal
6 to abide by UCC § 3-501.” Id. ¶ 36. In addition, Plaintiffs argue that “Defendants breached the
7 UCC’s ‘no space’ requirement when it provided a doctored copy of the Note with an allonge
8 attached to it” in response to Plaintiffs’ first QWR. Compl. ¶ 37.

9 However, the UCC, standing alone, does not support a private cause of action. See, e.g.,
10 Calderon v. Endres, No. 09-cv-00874-H (JMA), 2009 WL 1953400, at *3, *6 (S.D. Cal. July 7,
11 2009) (analyzing claims raised under UCC § 3-309 as if they had been alleged under California
12 Commercial Code § 2924, et seq.); Warren v. RJM Acquisitions, LLC, No. CV 11–376–TUC–FRZ
13 (LAB), 2012 WL 3638766, at *1 (D. Ariz. Aug. 24, 2012); Muriel L. v. TD Ameritrade, Inc., 2015
14 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 15192, at *8 (E.D. Tenn. Feb. 9, 2015)) (finding , where Plaintiffs alleged a
15 cause of action based solely on the UCC, that because “the parties’ brokerage agreement is
16 governed by Nebraska law . . . any cause of action would arise under the UCC as adopted by
17 Nebraska.” (emphasis added)). Because Plaintiffs do not allege that California has adopted UCC
18 §§ 3-202 or 3-501, these claims fail.⁶ The Court therefore dismisses these claims with leave to
19 amend to allow Plaintiffs to allege that such requirements exist under a specific California law, if
20 they can truthfully do so.

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23 some colorable relationship between his injury and the actions or omissions that allegedly violated
24 RESPA,” and must explain “how the QWR failure itself is causally connected to the claimed
25 distress of [Plaintiff].”) (internal quotation marks omitted).

26 ⁶ To the extent Plaintiffs’ claim alleges that Defendants were required to present the physical Note,
27 or otherwise provide “‘reasonable evidence of authority’ to demand payment” under the Note,
28 Compl. ¶ 35, the Court disagrees. As noted above, if Defendants need not produce the Note
before initiating a foreclosure, it follows that Plaintiffs cannot prospectively enjoin a foreclosure
by claiming Defendants violated the UCC by not producing the note in advance. See, e.g.,
Jenkins, 216 Cal. App. 4th at 512; Gamboa v. Trustee Corps., No. 09-0007 SC, 2009 WL 656285,
at *4 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 12, 2009) (California’s “statutory framework governing non-judicial
foreclosures contains no requirement that the lender produce the original note to initiate the
foreclosure process.”) (citing Cal. Civ. Code § 2924(a)-(e)).

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iii. UCL

Plaintiffs’ final allegations under California’s Unfair Competition Law are wholly derivative. “[A] § 17200 claim must be brought ‘by a person who has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of the unfair competition.’” *Sullivan v. Washington Mut. Bank, FA*, No. C-09-2161 EMC, 2009 WL 3458300, at *4 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 23, 2009) (quoting Cal. Business & Professions Code § 17204). Plaintiffs base their UCL claim on each of their other causes of action by incorporating those claims by reference. Compl. ¶ 41. Because Plaintiffs’ other causes of action were dismissed, their UCL claim is also dismissed. However, should Plaintiffs choose to amend their RESPA/Regulation X and UCC claims, they may amend their corresponding UCL claim as well.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Defendants’ motion to dismiss Plaintiffs’ claims for declaratory relief is **GRANTED** with prejudice. In addition, the Court **GRANTS** Defendants’ motion to dismiss Plaintiffs’ RESPA/Regulation X, UCC, and UCL claims with leave to amend. In the event that Plaintiffs wish to amend their complaint with regard to their RESPA/Regulation X, UCC, and UCL claims, they may do so by May 12, 2017.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: 4/6/2017


HAYWOOD S. GILLIAM, JR.
United States District Judge