EXHIBIT 9

COOLEY GODWARD KRONISH LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW SAN DIEGO

NORTON DEC 1/S/O OPPOSITION TO ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION 08-CV-03452 RMW RS I, Leo P. Norton, declare:

- 1. I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of California, and I am admitted to practice before this Court. I am an associate with the law firm of Cooley Godward Kronish LLP, attorneys for Defendant Google Inc. in this action and in the three actions that RK West seeks to relate through its administrative motion. As an attorney for Google, I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this Declaration, and if called upon to testify, I could and would testify competently thereto.
- 2. Attached hereto as Exhibit 1 is a true and correct copy of the Complaint against Google in the case entitled *David Almeida v. Google, Inc.*, Case No. C 08-02088-RMW ("*Almeida* case"), which was filed on April 22, 2008.
- 3. On August 25, 2008, I sent plaintiffs' counsel in the *Almeida*, *Levitte*, *RK West*, and *Pulaski* cases a meet and confer letter via email and mail. I wrote to them to: (1) notify them that the *Levitte*, *RK West*, and *Pulaski* cases are related to each other and to the earlier-filed *Almeida* case; (2) attempt to reach a stipulation on Google's intended administrative motion under Civil Local Rules 3-12 and 7-11 to relate the cases; and (3) request that Google's time to answer or otherwise respond to the *Levitte*, *RK West*, and *Pulaski* cases complaints be coordinated and an extension of time such that Google's new response deadline in those three cases is on or before September 30, 2008. I requested that plaintiffs counsel respond to my letter by end of day Wednesday, August 27, 2008. Attached as Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of the letter I sent to plaintiffs' counsel on August 25, 2008.
- 4. On August 26, 2008, at 9:24 a.m., I received an email from plaintiff's counsel in the *Levitte* case, which was copied to all other plaintiffs' counsel, purporting to write on behalf of plaintiffs' counsel in the *Almeida*, *Levitte*, *RK West*, and *Pulaski* cases and requesting an additional week to and including September 3, 2008 to respond to my August 25, 2008 letter and granting an interim extension to respond to the complaint in the *Levitte* case. Later that day, at 12:19 p.m., I responded via email, which was copied to all plaintiffs' counsel in the four cases, granting their requested extension. Still later that day, at 1:00 p.m., I received another email from plaintiff's counsel in the *Levitte* case, which was copied to all other plaintiffs' counsel, stating

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that plaintiffs' counsel in the four cases would be discussing the issues raised in my August 25, 2008 letter and that they would respond by Thursday, August 28, 2008 at the latest. Attached as Exhibit 3 is a true and correct copy of an email chain containing my email to all plaintiffs' counsel on August 25, 2008 enclosing my August 25, 2008 letter, the *Levitte* case plaintiff's counsel's response on August 26, 2008, at 9:24 a.m., my response that day at 12:19 p.m., and the *Levitte* case plaintiff's counsel's response at 1:00 p.m.

- 5. I did not receive a response from any of the plaintiffs' counsel on Thursday, August 28, 2008 as promised. Having still not received any response after the holiday weekend, I emailed all plaintiffs' counsel on September 2, 2008, at 8:11 a.m., demanding that plaintiffs respond to my August 25, 2008 letter by noon. Attached as Exhibit 4 is a true and correct copy of my September 2, 2008 email.
- 6. As of the signing and filing of this declaration, I have not received a response to my August 25, 2008 letter or any of my email communications from the *RK West* case plaintiff's counsel. The *RK West* plaintiff's counsel, who is also the *Almeida* case plaintiff's counsel, is the only plaintiff's counsel that has not responded to my communications, and it is the only plaintiff's counsel that has not responded to my request that Google's time to answer or otherwise respond to the *Levitte*, *RK West*, and *Pulaski* cases complaints be coordinated and that Google be granted an extension of time such that Google's new response deadline in those three cases is on or before September 30, 2008. I have received responses from the *Levitte* and *Pulaski* cases plaintiffs, both of whom take the position that the *Almeida* case is not related but have stipulated to Google's request for a consolidated response deadline of September 30, 2008.
- 7. Late in the morning on September 2, 2008, I received via priority U.S. mail the *RK West* case plaintiff's Administrative Motion to Consider Whether Cases Should be Related Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 3-12 and supporting documents that were filed in the *RK West* case. The administrative motion seeks to relate the *Levitte*, *RK West*, and *Pulaski* cases before Judge James Ware.
- 8. Today, concurrently with the filing of its opposition to the *RK West* case plaintiff's administrative motion, Google filed its administrative motion in the *Almeida* case, which seeks to

1	relate the Almeida, Levitte, RK West, and Pulaski cases. The Almeida case is the low-numbered
2	case.
3	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the
4	foregoing is true and correct. Executed on September 4, 2008, at San Diego, California.
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6	Leo P Norton
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Case 5:08-cv-03452-RMW Document 14 Filed 09/04/2008

COOLEY GODWARD KRONISH LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW SAN DIEGO Page 4 of 6

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 4, 2008, I electronically filed the foregoing **DECLARATION OF LEO P. NORTON IN SUPPORT OF OPPOSITION TO ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION TO CONSIDER WHETHER CASES SHOULD BE RELATED PURSUANT TO CIVIL LOCAL RULE 3-12** with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to the following attorneys of record at the following listed email addresses.

- Brian S. Kabateck bsk@kbklawyers.com
- Richard Kellner rlk@kbklawyers.com,rs@kbklawyers.com
- Alfredo Torrijos at@kbklawyers.com,icd@kbklawyers.com

I also hereby certify that I caused the foregoing document to be personally delivered by consigning the document(s) to an authorized courier and/or process server for hand delivery on this 4th day of September, 2008 to the following listed addresses.

Erik Swen Syverson
Pick & Boydston, LLP
1000 Wilshire Boulevard
Suite 600
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Attorneys for Plaintiff RK West, Inc.

15 Attorneys for Plaintiff KK West, Inc

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	Case 5:08-cv-03452-RMW Document 14	Filed 09/04/2008 Page 6 of 6
1	Guido Saveri R. Alexander Saveri	Terry Gross Adam C. Belsky
2	Cadio Zirpoli Saveri & Saveri Inc.	Monique Alonso
3	111 Pine Street	Gross Belsky Alonso LLP 180 Montgomery Street
4	Suite 1700 San Francisco, CA 94111	Suite 2200 San Francisco, CA 94104
5	Attorneys for Plaintiff Pulaski & Middleman, LLC	Attorneys for Plaintiff Pulaski & Middleman, LLC
6	Robert C. Schubert	Hon. Susan Illston
7	Willem F. Jonckheer	United States District Court
8	Kimberly Ann Kralowec Schubert Jonckheer Kolbe & Kralowec LLP	Northern District of California 450 Golden Gate Ave.
9	Three Embarcadero Center Suite 1650	Courtroom 10, 19th Floor San Francisco, CA 94102
10	San Francisco, CA 94111 Attorneys for Plaintiff Hal K. Levitte	COURTESY COPY Pulaski & Middleman, LLC v. Google Inc.,
11	Miorneys for I tuining The In. Derme	Case No. 08-cv-03888
12	Hon. James Ware	
13	United States District Court Northern District of California	
14	280 South 1st Street Courtroom 8, 4th Floor	
15	San Jose, CA 95113	
16	COURTESY COPY Hal K. Levitte, Case No. 08-cv-03369	
17 18		
19		Ch Man
20		Kendra Jones COOLEY GODWARD KRONISH LLP
21		4401 Eastgate Mall San Diego, CA 92121-1909
22		Telephone: (858) 550-6000 FAX: (858) 550-6420
23	602239 /SD	Email: kjones@cooley.com
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EXHIBIT 1

Case 5:08-cv-03452-RMW Document 14-2 Filed 09/04/2008 Page 2 of 14 Filed 04/22/2008 T-Rage 10 Pf 13 F-295 64-22-2008Case65408-664+02088-RMW Document 1-3 Feefard FILED BRIAN S. KABATECK, SBN 152054 (bsk@kbklawyers.com) 2008 APR 22 A 11: 47 RICHARD L. KELLNER, SBN 171416 (rlk@kbklawyers.com) ÀLFREDO TORRUOS, SBN 222458 RICHARD W. WIEKING (at@kbklawyers.com) U.S. DISTRICT COURT KO. DIST, OF FALS, J. KABATECK BROWN KELLNER I 644 South Figueroa Street Los Angeles, California 90017 Telephone: (213) 217-5000 Facsimile: (213) 217-5010 Attorneys for Plaintiff David Almeida UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 1.2 DAVID ALMEIDA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, 131 14 Plaintiff. CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT 15 YS. JURY TRIAL DEMANDED 16 GOOGLE, INC., a Delaware 17 Corporation; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, 18 19 Defendants. 2Q 21 22 Plaintiff David Almeida ("Plaintiff"), individually and on behalf of the class 23 described below, by his attorneys, makes the following allegations pursuant to the 24 investigation of his counsel and based upon information and belief except as to 25 allegations specifically pertaining to Plaintiff and his counsel, which are based on 24 personal knowledge. Plaintiff brings this action for damages and injunctive relief against 27 defendant, demanding a trial by jury. 28

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiff brings this class action against Google, Inc. ("Google") to recover damages and other relief available at law and in equity on behalf of himself as well as on behalf of the members of the following class:

> All persons or entities located within the United States who bid on a keyword though AdWords, left the "CPC content bid" input blank, and were charged for content ads.

- 2. This action arises from Google's deceptive, fraudulent and unfair practice of tricking advertisers who seek on-line advertising through Google's AdWords program into bidding for a service that they do not want.
- 3. Google is commonly thought simply as an Internet search engine; in fact Google's business is online advertising. Google's business model is primarily dependent on linking individuals who are searching the internet with advertisers who pay Google (and others) for each time the linkage occurs. The Google Network is the largest online advertising network in the United States.
- 4. AdWords is Google's primary advertising program and is the main source of its revenue. Through AdWords, Google permits would-be advertisers to bid on words or phrases that will trigger the advertisers' ads. AdWords is premised on a pay-per-click ("PPC") model, meaning that advertisers pay only when their ads are clicked. As part of the AdWords bidding process, therefore, advertisers must set a maximum cost per click ("CPC") bid that the advertiser is willing to pay each time someone clicks on its ad. When an advertiser is choosing its CPC bid, it is also given the "option" of entering a separate bid for clicks originating from Google's "content network" which consists of sites that are not search engines. These content network sites are those that use AdSense, the other side of the Google advertising model.
- 5. This action arises from the fact that Google does not inform its advertisers that if they leave the content bid CPC input blank, Google will use the advertiser's CPC bid for clicks occurring on the content network. Google does this despite the fact that ads

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placed on the content network are demonstrably inferior to ads appearing on search result pages. Because there is no option to opt out of content ads during the AdWords registration process, advertisers reasonably believe that by leaving the content ad CPC input blank they can opt out of having their ads placed on the content network. Google, however, has charged and continues to charge those advertisers who leave content ad CPC input blank for content ads on third party websites.

PARTIES

- 6. Plaintiff David Almeida ("Plaintiff") is a resident of Essex County,
 Massachusetts and citizen of Massachusetts. Plaintiff has previously registered for an
 AdWords account as more particularly described herein and has also previously been
 charged for content ads as more particularly described herein.
- 7. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendant Google. Inc. ("Google") is a Delaware Corporation doing business in the state of California. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that there is no one state where Google conducts a substantial predominance of its business, making its principal place of business the state where it is headquartered. Network Solutions' headquarters and, thus, its principal place of business are located at 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, California. Accordingly, Defendant Google is a citizen of Delaware and California.
- 8. Plaintiff does not know the true names or capacities of the persons or entities sued herein as DOES 1 to 10, inclusive, and therefore sues such defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the DOE defendants is in some manner legally responsible for the damages suffered by Plaintiff and the members of the class as alleged herein. Plaintiff will amend this complaint to set forth the true names and capacities of these defendants when they have been ascertained, along with appropriate charging allegations, as may be necessary.

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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 9. This Court has diversity subject matter jurisdiction over this class action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) in that this is a civil action filed under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and members of the class of Plaintiffs are citizens of a State different from defendant Google, and the aggregated amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs. See 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2), (6).
- 10. Venue is proper in the Northern District of California pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) in that: (1) Google resides in this judicial district; (2) a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims asserted herein occurred in this judicial district; and (3) Google is subject to personal jurisdiction in the Northern District of California.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 11. Google offers advertisers two types of ads. The first is a search ad. When an Internet user uses Google to search for a specific term or term, Google will display the ads of advertisers who have bid for those particular keywords. The second type of ad is contextual based ads, or content ads. These ads are shown on third party websites that have content that matches the keywords bid on by the advertiser. For example, an ad for a hardware store may be shown on a website that has content about home improvement projects.
- 12. In order to advertise with Google, advertisers must register with AdWords, Google's advertising program. The process of registering with AdWords involves an online process that begins by clicking on the "Advertising Programs" link on Google's homepage. After selecting to register with AdWords and the desired version, the advertiser moves to the initial step of the sign-up process. First, the advertiser selects the target language and geographic location. Then, the advertiser creates the ad that will be placed on Google's website or on third party websites and selects the desired keywords. The advertiser then selects the maximum daily budget and the maximum CPC bid. Here,

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the advertiser has two choices, the "Default CPC bid" and the "CPC content bid". Next to the "CPC content bid" input is the word "optional".

- 12. Nowhere on this page, or anywhere in the registration process, is there the option to opt-out of content ads.
- 13. Advertisers who do not want to pay for ads placed on third party websites, therefore leave the "CPC content bid" input blank, reasonably believing that the word "optional" means that having content ads placed on third party websites is optional.
- 14. Google, however, fails to inform that an advertiser who leaves this "optional" input blank will nonetheless be charged for third party content ads. By redefining the universally understood meaning of an input form left blank, and then intentionally concealing this redefinition, Google has fraudulently taken millions of dollars from Plaintiff and the members of the class.
- 15. Plaintiff enrolled in AdWords in November 2006. Plaintiff created an advertising campaign for his private investigation business. Plaintiff set the desired bids for his ads, and, not wanting to pay for ads placed on third part content sites, left the CPC content bid input blank. Plaintiff, like any reasonable consumer, expected that leaving an input blank would indicate that he did not want to bid on content ads. This expectation was supported by the fact that Plaintiff was not given the option of opting out of content bids during the advertising campaign creation process.
- 16. Despite leaving the CPC content bid input blank, Google charged Plaintiff for unwanted third party content ads.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

13. <u>Description of the Class</u>: Plaintiff brings this nationwide class action on behalf of himself and the Class defined as follows:

All persons or entities located within the United States who bid on a keyword though AdWords, left the "CPC content bid" input blank, and were charged for content ads.

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Excluded from the Class are governmental entities, Defendant, any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest, and Defendant's officers, directors, affiliates, legal representatives, employees, co-conspirators, successors, subsidiaries, and assigns. Also excluded from the Class is any judge, justice, or judicial officer presiding over this matter and the members of their immediate families and judicial staff.

- Plaintiff reserves the right to modify the class description and the class period based on the results of discovery. 16.
- Numerosity: The proposed Class is so numerous that individual joinder of all its members is impracticable. Due to the nature of the trade and commerce involved, however, Plaintiff believes that the total number of class members is at least in the hundreds of thousands and that the members of the Class are numerous and geographically dispersed across the United States. While the exact number and identities of class members are unknown at this time, such information can be ascertained through appropriate investigation and discovery. The disposition of the claims of the Class members in a single class action will provide substantial benefits to all parties and to the
- 17. Common Questions of Law and Fact Predominate: questions of law and fact common to the representative Plaintiff and the proposed Class, There are many and those questions substantially predominate over any individualized questions that may affect individual class members. Common questions of fact and law include, but are not limited to, the following: a.
 - Whether Google charges for advertisements placed on third party websites when the "optional" CPC content bid input is left blank, and whether Google discloses this material fact to consumers;
 - Whether Google failed to disclose that when the "optional" CPC Ь. content bid input is left blank, Google will still charge for ads placed on third party websites;

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c.	Whether or not Plaintiff and the members of the Class have been
	damaged by the wrongs complained of herein, and if so, the measure
	of those damages and the nature and extent of other relief that should
	be afforded;

- d. Whether Google engaged in unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices, and
- e. Whether Google failed to disclose material facts about the subject Google Adwords program.
- 18. <u>Typicality</u>: Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class. Plaintiff and all members of the Class have been similarly affected by Defendant's common course of conduct since they were charged for ads although they also left the "optional" CPC content bid blank..
- 19. Adequacy of Representation: Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class. Plaintiff has retained counsel with substantial experience in prosecuting complex and class action litigation. Plaintiff and his counsel are committed to vigorously prosecuting this action on behalf of the Class, and have the financial resources to do so. Neither Plaintiff nor his counsel has any interests adverse to those of the proposed Class.
- suffered, and will continue to suffer, harm as a result of Defendant's unlawful and wrongful conduct. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the present controversy as individual joinder of all members of the Class is impractical. Even if individual Class members had the resources to pursue individual litigation, it would be unduly burdensome to the courts in which the individual litigation would proceed. Individual litigation magnifies the delay and expense to all parties in the court system of resolving the controversies engendered by Defendant's common course of conduct. The class action device allows a single court to provide the benefits of unitary adjudication, judicial economy, and the fair and equitable handling of

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all class members' claims in a single forum. The conduct of this action as a class action conserves the resources of the parties and of the judicial system, and protects the rights of the class member. Furthermore, for many, if not most, Class members, a class action is the only feasible mechanism that allows an opportunity for legal redress and justice.

Adjudication of individual Class members' claims with respect to the Defendant would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other members not parties to the adjudication and could substantially impair or impede the ability of other Class members to protect their interests.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

UNJUST ENRICHMENT

- Plaintiff realleges the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and, 22. to the extent necessary, pleads this cause of action in the alternative.
- 23. Through the actions described above, Google has received money belonging to Plaintiff and the Class through the fees collected from ads placed on third party content sites when a reasonable advertiser would have believed that leaving the CPC content bid input blank meant that they would not be charged for content ads.
- Additionally, Google has reaped substantial profit by concealing the fact 24. that when left blank, the "optional" CPC content bid would be set at an amount that could reach the amount bid for the search bid. Ultimately, this resulted in Google's wrongful receipt of profits and injury to Plaintiff and the Class. Google has benefited from the receipt of such money that it would not have received but for its concealment.
- As a direct and proximate result of Google's misconduct as set forth above, 25. Google has been unjustly enriched.
- Under principles of equity and good conscience, Google should not be 26. permitted to keep the full amount of money belonging to Plaintiff and the Class which Google has unjustly received as a result of its actions.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and the Class pray for relief as set forth below.

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7/ КÇ SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT

- Plaintiff realleges the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and, 27. to the extent necessary, pleads this cause of action in the alternative.
- Google knew at all material times that when an advertiser left the "optional" CPC content bid input blank, that advertiser would still be charged for content ad placed on third party websites. These facts were not known to Plaintiff and the Class.
- Google had a duty to disclose the above known material facts because it knew that these material facts were unknown to Plaintiff and the Class, that Google was in a superior position of knowledge with regard to its own technology, and Google chose to make certain representations that presented only a part of the true story and misled consumers about the subject products.
- Google's knowledge that advertisers would be charged for content ads placed on third party websites even when they left the "optional" CPC content bid input blank, combined with Google's knowledge that Plaintiff and the Class relied or relies upon Google to communicate the true state of facts relating to its AdWords program creates a legal obligation on Google's part to disclose to Plaintiff and the Class that leaving the "optional" CPC content bid input blank did not mean that they were not subject to charges for ads placed on third party websites.
- Google intentionally concealed and/or suppressed the above facts with the 31. intent to defraud Plaintiff and the Class.
- Plaintiff and the Class were unaware of the above facts and would not have 32. acted as they did if they had known of the concealed material facts.
- Google's concealment of the above facts has caused damage to Plaintiff and 33. the Class in an amount to be shown at trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and the Class pray for relief as set forth below.

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THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS CODE SECTIONS 17200 ET SEQ.

- Plaintiff realleges the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and, 34. to the extent necessary, pleads this cause of action in the alternative.
- Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in 35. fact and have lost money or property as a result of Google's actions as delineated herein.
- Class members have suffered injury in fact and have lost money or property 36. as a result of Google's actions as delineated herein.
- Google's actions as alleged in this complaint constitute an unfair or deceptive practice within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code sections 17200 et seq. in that Google's actions are unfair, unlawful and fraudulent, and because Google has made unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading statements in advertising media, including the Internet, within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code sections 17500 et seq.
- Google's business practices, as alleged herein, are unfair because they offend established public policy and/or are immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous and/or substantially injurious to consumers in that consumers are not informed that they will be charged for ads placed on third party websites even though the "optional" CPC content bid input was left blank.
- Google's business practices, as alleged herein, are unlawful because the conduct constitutes fraudulent concealment, as well as the other causes of action herein alleged.
- Google's practices, as alleged herein, are fraudulent because they are likely 40. to deceive consumers.
- Google's wrongful business acts alleged herein constituted, and constitute, 41. a continuing course of conduct of unfair competition since Google is marketing and selling their products in a manner that is likely to deceive the public.

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42.	Google's business acts and practices, as alleged herein, have caused injury
o Plaintiff, t	he Class and the public.

43. Pursuant to section 17203 of the California Business and Professions Code, Plaintiffs and the class seek an order of this court enjoining Google from continuing to engage in unlawful, unfair, or deceptive business practices and any other act prohibited by law, including those acts set forth in the complaint. Plaintiff and the Class also seek an order requiring Google to make full restitution of all moneys it wrongfully obtained from Plaintiff and the Class.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and the Class pray for relief as set forth below.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and members of the proposed Class request that the court enter an order or judgment against Defendant as follows:

- 1. Certification of the proposed Class and notice thereto to be paid by Defendant;
- 2. Adjudge and decree that Defendant has engaged in the conduct alleged herein;
- 3. For restitution and disgorgement on certain causes of action;
- For an injunction ordering Defendant to cease and desist from engaging in the unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent practices alleged in the Complaint;
- For compensatory and general damages according to proof on certain causes of action;
- 6. For special damages according to proof on certain causes of action;
- 7. For both pre and post-judgment interest at the maximum allowable rate on any amounts awarded;
- 8. Costs of the proceedings herein;
- 9. Reasonable attorneys fees as allowed by statute; and

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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— 13 — CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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EXHIBIT 2



Leo P. Norton (858) 550-6083 Inorton@cooley.com VIA EMAIL & MAIL

August 25, 2008

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RE: Google AdWords Putative Class Actions Pending in N.D. Cal.

David Almeida v. Google, Inc., Case No. C 08-02088-RMW (filed April 22, 2008)

Hal K. Levitte v. Google, Inc., Case No. C 08-03369-JW (filed July 11, 2008)

RK West, Inc. v. Google, Inc., Case No. C 08-03452-RMW (filed July 17, 2008)

Pulaski & Middleman, LLC v. Google Inc., Case No. C 08-03888-SI (filed August 14, 2008)

Dear Counsel:

We are counsel for Google Inc. in the Levitte, RK West, and Pulaski & Middleman cases. We write to: (1) notify you that the Levitte, RK West, and Pulaski & Middleman cases are related to each other and to the earlier-filed Almeida case; (2) attempt to reach a stipulation on Google's intended administrative motion under Civil Local Rules 3-12 and 7-11 to relate the cases; and (3) request that Google's time to answer or otherwise respond to the Levitte, RK West, and

¹ Keker & Van Nest, LLP is counsel of record for Google in the *Almeida* case.



Plaintiffs' Counsel in Google AdWords Actions August 25, 2008 Page Two

Pulaski & Middleman complaints be coordinated and an extension of time such that Google's new response deadline in those three cases is on or before September 30, 2008. For your reference, I am enclosing a copy of the four related complaints.

Related Google AdWords Putative Class Actions

Civil Local Rule 3-12 states that actions are related when "[t]he actions concern substantially the same parties, property, transaction or event" and "[i]t appears likely that there will be an unduly burdensome duplication of labor and expense or conflicting results if the cases are conducted before different Judges." Civil L.R. 3-12(a). The four putative class actions easily satisfy the Court's requirements for related cases.

Google is the sole named defendant in all four putative class actions, and therefore, the cases concern the same defendant. Further, the cases concern substantially the same putative plaintiffs because each case asserts a putative class of Google AdWords customers.

Also, all four putative class actions arise from and relate to the named plaintiffs' and putative class members' contractual relationship with Google for Google's AdWords advertising program. Although the *Almeida* case challenges alleged charges for clicks occurring on the content network when the "CPC input" is left blank, while the *Levitte*, *RK West*, and *Pulaski* cases challenge alleged charges for clicks for advertisements placed on parked domain or error page websites, each of the cases arise from and involve the same subject matter—Google's AdWords advertising program. All the actions involve and require an understanding of Google's advertising program, Google's contractual relationship with the named plaintiffs and putative class members, AdWords, the AdWords bidding process, the way advertisements are displayed and where they are displayed, and the fees that Google charges and how those fees are charged.

Additionally, all the actions assert claims for alleged unjust enrichment and alleged violation of California Business and Professions code section 17200 arising from the Google AdWords advertising program.

Last, given that the cases concern substantially the same subject matter and involve overlapping putative classes, there is the potential for unduly burdensome duplication of party and judicial labor and expense. Moreover, there is the potential for conflicting results, at a minimum as to class certification, if the cases are not related and if they proceed as presently assigned before three different judges.

Stipulation on Google's Administrative Motion

As required under Civil Local Rule 3-12(b), Google stands ready to file an administrative motion under Civil Local Rules 3-12 and 7-11 to relate the cases. If the cases are related, all four cases will be reassigned to the same judge, which is the judge in the low-numbered case. Here, the low-numbered case is the *Almeida* case, and the judge assigned to that case is Ronald M. Whyte. Also, the *RK West* case is already assigned to him. The *Levitte* and *Pulaski & Middleman* cases would be reassigned to him if the cases are related.



Plaintiffs' Counsel in Google AdWords Actions August 25, 2008 Page Three

Under Civil Local Rule 7-11(a), the administrative motion "must be accompanied by a proposed order and by either a stipulation under Civil L.R. 7-12 or by a declaration that explains why a stipulation could not be obtained." Civil L.R. 7-11(a). We ask that you stipulate that the cases are related, which will result in all the cases being assigned to Judge Whyte. The administrative motion does not address the level of coordination or consolidation. That will be addressed later after the cases are reassigned to the same judge.

Request for Extension of Time to Respond

The Levitte, RK West, and Pulaski & Middleman cases have all recently been served and presently have deadlines to answer or otherwise respond to the complaints staggered throughout the first half of September. We would appreciate the professional courtesy of coordinating the deadline to respond in those three actions, and request an extension of time to respond in those three actions to on or before September 30, 2008. By then, Google's administrative motion to relate the cases will be decided (and the cases reassigned if granted). Under Civil Local Rule 6-1, we can simply stipulate to the extension without Court approval, but we will have to file the stipulation in the three respective actions.

Please contact me by end of day **Wednesday**, **August 27**, **2008** to advise whether your respective plaintiffs will stipulate that the cases are related and whether they will agree to coordinate and extend Google's response deadline to on or before September 30, 2008.

Sincerely,

Enclosures – as stated

cc:

Daralyn J. Durie

Keker & Van Nest, LLP (w/ enclosures)

600883 v1/SD

EXHIBIT 3

Norton, Leo

From: Robert C. Schubert [rschubert@schubertlawfirm.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2008 1:00 PM

To: Norton, Leo; Kimberly A. Kralowec; guido@saveri.com; rick@saveri.com; cadio@saveri.com;

terry@gba-law.com; adam@gba-law.com; monique@gba-law.com; eriksyverson@gmail.com;

bsk@kbklawyers.com; rlk@kbklawyers.com; at@kbklawyers.com; Willem F. Jonckheer

Cc: Rhodes, Michael; Willsey, Peter; ddurie@kvn.com

Subject: RE: Google AdWords N.D. Cal. Cases - Letter from Cooley to Plaintiffs' Counsel

The attorneys in the CA cases will be discussing the issues you raise and expect to get back to you by Thursday at the latest.

From: Norton, Leo [mailto:Inorton@cooley.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2008 12:19 PM

To: Kimberly A. Kralowec; guido@saveri.com; rick@saveri.com; cadio@saveri.com; terry@gba-law.com;

adam@gba-law.com; monique@gba-law.com; eriksyverson@gmail.com; bsk@kbklawyers.com;

rlk@kbklawyers.com; at@kbklawyers.com; Robert C. Schubert; Willem F. Jonckheer

Cc: Rhodes, Michael; Willsey, Peter; ddurie@kvn.com

Subject: RE: Google AdWords N.D. Cal. Cases - Letter from Cooley to Plaintiffs' Counsel

Ms. Kralowec:

Thank you for your prompt response. We are fine with September 3 for plaintiffs' response to our letter regarding relating the cases.

As for coordinating Google's response deadline and requested extension of time, we request that all plaintiffs' agree to coordinate and extend Google's response to September 30. Although we appreciate you agreeing to a further extension of time in your case (the *Levitte* case) until September 10, such an extension does not result in a coordinated response deadline. The deadline to respond in the *Pulaski* case is September 4. Additionally, Google was recently served with another AdWords parked domain and error page websites putative class action. That case is pending in the N.D. Ill., and has a mid-September response date. We are attempting to get plaintiff in that action to voluntarily dismiss and re-file in the N.D. Cal. in light of the California forum selection and choice of law clauses in the advertising program agreement and terms of service agreement and the four earlier filed overlapping and competing putative class actions in the N.D. Cal. If plaintiff there does not agree to do so, we intend to file a motion to dismiss or transfer or an MDL motion to get all the cases in the N.D. Cal. Considering the upcoming holiday, the number of actions that have recently been served to which responses are due staggered throughout September, the unresolved procedural issues regarding relating all the cases in N.D. Cal. before the same judge, including the N.D. Ill. action, our recent involvement, and the lack of impending deadlines in the cases other than *Almeida*, we believe coordinating the remaining responses in all cases to September 30 is reasonable.

I will call you shortly to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Leo P. Norton

Cooley Godward Kronish LLP • 4401 Eastgate Mall

San Diego, CA 92121-1909

Direct: 858/550-6083 • Fax: 858/550-6420

Bio: www.cooley.com/Inorton • Practice: www.cooley.com/litigation

From: Kimberly A. Kralowec [mailto:KKralowec@schubertlawfirm.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2008 9:25 AM

To: Norton, Leo; guido@saveri.com; rick@saveri.com; cadio@saveri.com; terry@gba-law.com; adam@gba-law.com; monique@gba-law.com; eriksyverson@gmail.com; bsk@kbklawyers.com; rlk@kbklawyers.com; at@kbklawyers.com; Robert C. Schubert; Willem F. Jonckheer

Cc: Rhodes, Michael; Willsey, Peter; ddurie@kvn.com

Subject: RE: Google AdWords N.D. Cal. Cases - Letter from Cooley to Plaintiffs' Counsel

Dear Mr. Norton:

I write on behalf of plaintiffs' counsel in the four cases mentioned in your letter. We have received your letter and are in the process of analyzing it. We will require an additional week, through September 3, 2008, to respond to your points. To facilitate this, we are willing to agree to an additional week for Google to respond to the complaint in the *Levitte* case. The new deadline would be September 10, 2008. I am informed that the response deadlines in the other two cases are already later than that. Please contact me with any questions or concerns regarding the above.

Sincerely,

Kimberly A. Kralowec, Esq. Schubert Jonckheer Kolbe & Kralowec LLP Three Embarcadero Center, Suite 1650 San Francisco, CA 94111 Telephone: (415) 788-4220

Facsimile: (415) 788-0161

Email: kkralowec@schubertlawfirm.com Web: http://www.schubertlawfirm.com

From: Norton, Leo [mailto:lnorton@cooley.com]
Sent: Monday, August 25, 2008 11:25 AM

To: guido@saveri.com; rick@saveri.com; cadio@saveri.com; terry@gba-law.com; adam@gba-law.com; monique@gba-law.com; eriksyverson@gmail.com; bsk@kbklawyers.com; rlk@kbklawyers.com; ar@kbklawyers.com; rschubert@chubertlawfirm.com; Willem F. Jonckheer; Kimberly A. Kralowec

Cc: Rhodes, Michael; Willsey, Peter; ddurie@kvn.com

Subject: Google AdWords N.D. Cal. Cases - Letter from Cooley to Plaintiffs' Counsel

Dear Counsel:

I am attaching a letter and enclosures also being sent to you today via mail regarding certain administrative matters relating to the Google AdWords cases pending in the Northern District of California. We request your response on two issues. Please respond by end of day on Wednesday, August 27, 2008.

 $<<\!\!\mathsf{GOOGLE}\ Letter\ to\ Counsel.pdf>><<\!\!\mathsf{Almeida}\ v.\ \mathsf{Google.pdf}>><<\!\!\mathsf{Levitte}\ v.\ \mathsf{Google.pdf}>><<\!\!\mathsf{RK}\ \mathsf{West},\ \mathsf{Inc.}\ v.\ \mathsf{Google.pdf}>><<\!\!\mathsf{RK}\ \mathsf{West},\ \mathsf{Inc.}\ v.\ \mathsf{Google.pdf}>><<\!\!\mathsf{RK}\ \mathsf{West},\ \mathsf{Inc.}\ v.\ \mathsf{Google.pdf}>><<\!\!\mathsf{RK}\ \mathsf{West},\ \mathsf{Inc.}\ v.\ \mathsf{Google.pdf}>><\!\!\mathsf{RK}\ \mathsf{West},\ \mathsf{Inc.}\ v.\ \mathsf{RK}\ \mathsf{West}$

Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Leo P. Norton

Cooley Godward Kronish LLP • 4401 Eastgate Mall San Diego, CA 92121-1909 Direct: 858/550-6083 • Fax: 858/550-6420

Bio: www.cooley.com/Inorton • Practice: www.cooley.com/litigation

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EXHIBIT 4

Norton, Leo

From:

Norton, Leo

Sent:

Tuesday, September 02, 2008 8:11 AM

To:

'rschubert@schubertlawfirm.com'; 'KKralowec@schubertlawfirm.com'; 'guido@saveri.com';

'rick@saveri.com'; 'cadio@saveri.com'; 'terry@gba-law.com'; 'adam@gba-law.com'; 'monique@gba-law.com'; 'eriksyverson@gmail.com'; 'bsk@kbklawyers.com'; 'rlk@kbklawyers.com'; 'at@kbklawyers.com'; 'wjonckheer@schubertlawfirm.com'

Rhodes, Michael; Willsey, Peter; 'ddurie@kvn.com'

Cc: Subject:

Re: Google AdWords N.D. Cal. Cases - Letter from Cooley to Plaintiffs' Counsel

We did not receive a response on Thursday as stated in the email below, and it has been over a week since we sent our letter. If we do not receive a response by noon today, we will file the administrative motion to relate the N.D. Cal. cases today, and advise the court (as we are required to do under the local rules) that we attempted to reach a stipulation with plaintiffs regarding relating the cases, but plaintiffs failed to respond.

Please also advise whether plaintiffs agree to coordinating and extending Google's deadline to respond to September 30.

Sincerely,

----Original Message-----

From: Robert C. Schubert

To: Leo Norton

To: Kimberly A. Kralowec

To: quido@saveri.com

To: rick@saveri.com

To: cadio@saveri.com

To: terry@gba-law.com

To: adam@gba-law.com

To: monique@gba-law.com

To: eriksyverson@gmail.com

To: bsk@kbklawyers.com

To: rlk@kbklawyers.com

To: at@kbklawyers.com

To: Willem F. Jonckheer

Cc: Michael Rhodes

Cc: Willsey, Peter

Cc: ddurie@kvn.com

Sent: Aug 26, 2008 1:00 PM

Subject: RE: Google AdWords N.D. Cal. Cases - Letter from Cooley to Plaintiffs' Counsel

The attorneys in the CA cases will be discussing the issues you raise and expect to get back to you by Thursday at the latest.

From: Norton, Leo [mailto:lnorton@cooley.com]

Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2008 12:19 PM

To: Kimberly A. Kralowec; guido@saveri.com; rick@saveri.com; cadio@saveri.com; terry@gba-

law.com; adam@gba-law.com; monique@gba-law.com; eriksyverson@gmail.com;

bsk@kbklawyers.com; rlk@kbklawyers.com; at@kbklawyers.com; Robert C. Schubert; Willem F.

Cc: Rhodes, Michael; Willsey, Peter; ddurie@kvn.com

Subject: RE: Google Adwords N.D. Cal. Cases - Letter from Cooley to Plaintiffs' Counsel

Ms. Kralowec:

Case 5:08-cv-03452-RMW Document 14-5 Filed 09/04/2008 Page 3 of 3

Thank you for your prompt response. We are fine with September 3 for plaintiffs' response to our letter regarding relating the cases.

As for coordinating Google's response deadline and requested extension of time, we request that all plaintiffs' agree to coordinate and extend Google's response to September 30. Although we appreciate you agreeing to a further extension of time in your case (the Levitte case) until September 10, such an extension does not result in a coordinated response deadline. The deadline to respond in the Pulaski case is September 4. Additionally, Google was recently served with another AdWords parked domain and error page websites putative class action. That case is pending in the N.D. Ill., and has a mid-September response date. We are attempting to get plaintiff in that action to voluntarily dismiss

-----Original Message Truncated-----

Leo P. Norton Cooley Godward Kronish LLP 4401 Eastgate Mall San Diego, CA 92121-1909 Direct: 858-550-6083 Fax: 8

Direct: 858-550-6083 Fax: 858-550-6420

Bio: www.cooley.com/lnorton Practice: www.cooley.com/litigation