1 2 3 4 5 6 7		
8	UNITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT
9	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
10		
11	ALBERT TOBIN, an individual; JULIET TOBIN, an individual,	CASE NO. 09cv0256 DMS (CAB)
12	Plaintiffs,	ORDER (1) GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART
13	r laintiits,	DEFENDANT DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY'S
14	VS.	MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT, (2) GRANTING IN
15		PART AND DENYING IN DEFENDANT WELLS FARGO
16 17	BC BANCORP, a California Corporation, et	BANK, N.A.'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND (3) DENYING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION
18	al.,	FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT
19	Defendants.	[Docket Nos. 142, 143, 144]
20		
21	This matter comes before the Court on De	fendants Deutsche Bank National Trust Company
22	and Wells Fargo Bank N.A.'s motions for sum	nary judgment and Plaintiffs' motion for partial
23	summary judgment. ¹ The motions are fully bri	efed and ready for disposition. For the reasons
24	discussed below, the Court grants in part and	denies in part Defendants' motions, and denies
25	Plaintiffs' motion.	
26		
27	¹ Defendant NDEx West LLC filed a Not	ice of Joinder in Defendant Wells Fargo's motion
28	on July 22, 2010, nearly one week after the reply an opportunity to respond to arguments as they re	briefs were filed. Because Plaintiffs did not have late to Defendant NDEx West, the Court finds the to address the motion as to Defendant NDEx West.

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1

BACKGROUND

I.

In June 2006, Plaintiffs Albert Tobin, age 79, and Juliet Tobin, age 91, were solicited to 4 refinance their primary residence located at 1585 Powell Road in Oceanside, CA. (Decl. of Albert Tobin in Supp. of Pls.' Mot. for Partial Summ. J. ("Tobin Decl.") \P 3.)² Plaintiffs completed the 6 refinance on or about June 26, 2006.

7 On May 1, 2007, Defendants Alliance Bancorp ("Alliance"), Wells Fargo Bank ("WFB") and 8 Deutsche Bank National Trust Company ("Deutsche") entered into a Pooling and Servicing 9 Agreement ("PSA") with Alliance Securities Corp. and GMAC Mortgage, LLC. ("GMAC"). (See Decl. of Deborah Raymond in Opp'n to Mot. for Summ. J., Ex. G.)³ Pursuant to the terms of the PSA, 10 11 Depositor Alliance Securities Corp. transferred title to certain mortgage loans to Defendant Deutsche as Trustee. (PSA § 2.01.) Defendant WFB was appointed Master Servicer of the loans included in 12 13 the trust, Defendant Alliance was appointed Servicer of the loans, and GMAC was appointed Back-Up Servicer. Subsequently, Defendant Alliance transferred its rights and obligations as Servicer to 14 15 IndyMac Bank, FSB, which transferred its rights to Defendant IndyMac Federal Bank, FSB 16 ("IndyMac"), which transferred its rights to One West Bank, FSB.

17 On May 30, 2007, Plaintiffs' loan was transferred to Defendant Deutsche for inclusion in the 18 pool of loans governed by the PSA. (Pls.' Statement of Disputed and Undisputed Facts in Opp'n to 19 Mot. for Summ. J., Pls.' Fact No. 17.)

In February 2008, Plaintiffs defaulted on their loan. (Id., Def.'s Fact No. 14.)

21 On September 18, 2008, Plaintiff mailed a Notice of Rescission of their loan to Defendants BC 22 Bancorp, FDIC as Receiver of IndyMac, WFB and NDEx West, L.L.C. (Tobin Decl., Ex. F.) In 23 response to that Notice, Defendant IndyMac agreed to enter a Rescission Agreement with Plaintiffs. 24 (See Pls.' Notice of Lodgment in Supp. of Pls.' Mot., Ex. 2.) On October 3, 2008, Elke Poerschke, 25 ///

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² Defendants object to most of Mr. Tobin's declaration on grounds of hearsay and lack of 27 foundation. The Court overrules those objections.

²⁸ ³ Plaintiffs submitted only a small portion of the PSA with their opposition brief. After the motion was submitted, and at the Court's request, Plaintiffs submitted a copy of the entire PSA.

1	who was then employed as Vice President - Corporate Compliance for Defendant IndyMac, prepared
2	a letter and Rescission Agreement for Plaintiffs' review and approval. (Id.)
3	The following month, Plaintiffs' counsel engaged in a series of e-mails with Poerschke
4	concerning Plaintiffs' loan. The e-mail exchange is attached to the Corrected Second Amended
5	Complaint ("CSAC") as Exhibit H, and provides as follows: ⁴
6	From: Deborah L. Raymond [mailto:draymond@lawinfo.com]
7	Sent: Friday, November 07, 2008 11:38AM To: Poerschke, Elke Subject: RE: Albert W. Tobin and Juliet E. Tobin / IMFB Loan No. 3002883258
8	Dear Ms. Poerschke:
9	
10	This email is regards to my above referenced clients. As we discussed, my clients are elderly and the pending Trustee's Sale on their home is causing them severe emotional
11	distress.
12	Pursuant to the last message that you left on my voice mail, it was my understanding that you were going to review the loan modification Information provided by my
13	clients and have the Trustee's Sale postponed.
14	I have just looked online and the Trustee's Sale is still pending for 11/20/2008. Please inform me of your intentions and provide me with written confirmation that the Trustee's Sale has been postponed and to what date. Thank you.
15	
16	From: Poerschke, Elke [mailto:Elke.Poerschke@imb.com]
17	Sent: Friday, November 07, 2008 1:19 PM To: <u>draymond@lawinfo.com</u> Subject: RE: Albert W. Tobin and Juliet E. Tobin / IMFB Loan No. 3002883258
18	Dear Ms. Raymond,
19	I have confirmed that the foreclosure was placed on hold and your clients' file has been
20	forwarded to a loss mitigation specialist. I've asked for them to provide me with an update. I will be back in touch with you as soon as I hear from them.
21	Thank you.
22 23	Elke Poerschke
24	
24	From: Deborah L. Raymond [<u>mailto:draymond@lawinfo.com]</u> Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2008 7:50 PM To: Poersekka, Elka
26	To: Poerschke, Elke Subject: RE: Albert W. Tobin and Juliet E. Tobin / IMFB Loan No. 3002883258
27	Dear Ms. Poerschke:
28	
	⁴ The e-mail exchange has been edited to appear in chronological order.

1 2	Based on your email below, it is my understanding that the Trustee's Sale has been postponed and yet, as of this writing, the foreclosure posting company states that it is still scheduled for November 20, 2008 (see attached). Please explain.
3	Pursuant to your prior email, I informed my elderly clients (one of whom has just
4	returned from being hospitalized) that you have placed the foreclosure on hold. Ms. Poerschke, we have relied on your representation. If the Tobin's home is unlawfully
5	foreclosed upon, it will cause them serious and irreparable harm. Please provide me with verifiable confirmation that the Trustee's Sale has been postponed and to what
6	date. Thank you.
7	Deborah L. Raymond
8	From: Poerschke, Elke [<u>mailto:Elke.Poerschke@imb.com]</u> Sent: Friday, November 14, 2008 6:48 AM
9	To: <u>draymond@lawinfo.com</u> Subject: RE: Albert W. Tobin and Juliet E. Tobin / IMFB Loan No. 3002883258
10	Dear Ms. Raymond,
11	I have confirmed with our servicing department that the sale is still on hold
12	(indefinitely). Should you wish to speak with our foreclosure attorney to verify this, you may contact them at 866-795-1852.
13	Elke Poerschke
14	
15	(CSAC, Ex. H.)
16	Despite Poerschke's representation that the foreclosure sale was on hold "indefinitely," there
17	is evidence in the record that the foreclosure sale was only on hold for sixty days, and that Poerschke
18	was made aware of that fact. (See Poerschke's Notice of Lodgment in Supp. of Mot., Ex. C at 157-
19	58.)
20	On February 6, 2009, Plaintiffs' home was sold at a Trustee's sale to Defendant IndyMac.
21	Plaintiffs first learned of the sale on February 11, 2009.
22	That same day, Plaintiffs filed the present case. The Corrected Second Amended Complaint
23	("CSAC") alleges the following claims for relief against the following Defendants: (1) violation of
24	the Truth in Lending Act ("TILA") against Defendants WFB, US Bank, N.A., Deutsche, BC Bancorp
25	and Alliance, (2) violation of California Business and Professions Code § 17200 ("UCL") against all
26	Defendants, (3) quiet title against Defendants WFB, US Bank, N.A., Deutsche, BC Bancorp and
27	Alliance, (4) violation of California's Consumer Legal Remedies Act against Defendants J&J Lending
28	("J&J"), Robert S. Garner ("Garner") and Loni Hall ("Hall"), (5) violation of California's Elder Abuse

1	Act by Defendants BC Bancorp, J&J, Garner and Hall, (6) breach of fiduciary duty by Defendants	
2	J&J, Garner and Hall, (7) fraud by Defendants J&J, Garner and Hall, (8) intentional misrepresentation	
3	by Defendants WFB, US Bank, N.A., Deutsche, IndyMac, Poerschke and NDEx West, L.L.C., (9)	
4	negligent misrepresentation by Defendants WFB, US Bank, N.A., Deutsche, IndyMac, Poerschke and	
5	NDEx West, L.L.C., (10) intentional infliction of emotional distress by Defendants WFB, US Bank,	
6	N.A., Deutsche, IndyMac, Poerschke and NDEx West, L.L.C., (11) negligent infliction of emotional	
7	distress by Defendants WFB, US Bank, N.A., Deutsche, IndyMac, Poerschke and NDEx West, L.L.C.,	
8	and (12) breach of contract by Defendants WFB, US Bank, N.A., Deutsche, IndyMac, Poerschke and	
9	NDEx West, L.L.C The Clerk of Court entered defaults against Defendants BC Bancorp, Alliance,	
10	Garner and Hall, and the Court dismissed Defendants IndyMac, Poerschke and US Bank from the	
11	case. It appears Plaintiffs have settled their claims against Defendant J&J, but that Defendant has not	
12	yet been dismissed from the case. The only other remaining Defendants are WFB, Deutsche and	
13	NDEx West, L.L.C.	
14	II.	
	DISCUSSION	
15	DISCUSSION	
15 16	DISCUSSION Defendants Deutsche and WFB move for summary judgment on each claim against them: (1)	
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16 17	Defendants Deutsche and WFB move for summary judgment on each claim against them: (1) violation of TILA, (2) violation of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, (3) quiet title,	
16 17 18	Defendants Deutsche and WFB move for summary judgment on each claim against them: (1) violation of TILA, (2) violation of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, (3) quiet title, (4) intentional misrepresentation, (5) negligent misrepresentation, (6) intentional infliction of	
16 17 18 19	Defendants Deutsche and WFB move for summary judgment on each claim against them: (1) violation of TILA, (2) violation of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, (3) quiet title, (4) intentional misrepresentation, (5) negligent misrepresentation, (6) intentional infliction of emotional distress, (7) negligent infliction of emotional distress, and (8) breach of contract. Plaintiffs	
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16 17 18 19 20 21	Defendants Deutsche and WFB move for summary judgment on each claim against them: (1) violation of TILA, (2) violation of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, (3) quiet title, (4) intentional misrepresentation, (5) negligent misrepresentation, (6) intentional infliction of emotional distress, (7) negligent infliction of emotional distress, and (8) breach of contract. Plaintiffs move for summary judgment on their TILA claim only. A. Summary Judgment	
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 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 	Defendants Deutsche and WFB move for summary judgment on each claim against them: (1) violation of TILA, (2) violation of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, (3) quiet title, (4) intentional misrepresentation, (5) negligent misrepresentation, (6) intentional infliction of emotional distress, (7) negligent infliction of emotional distress, and (8) breach of contract. Plaintiffs move for summary judgment on their TILA claim only. A. Summary Judgment Summary judgment is appropriate if there is no genuine issue as to any material fact, and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(c). The moving party has the initial burden of demonstrating that summary judgment is proper. <i>Adickes v. S.H. Kress & Co.</i> , 398 U.S. 144, 157 (1970). The moving party must identify the pleadings, depositions, affidavits, or	
 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 	Defendants Deutsche and WFB move for summary judgment on each claim against them: (1) violation of TILA, (2) violation of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, (3) quiet title, (4) intentional misrepresentation, (5) negligent misrepresentation, (6) intentional infliction of emotional distress, (7) negligent infliction of emotional distress, and (8) breach of contract. Plaintiffs move for summary judgment on their TILA claim only. A. Summary Judgment Summary judgment is appropriate if there is no genuine issue as to any material fact, and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(c). The moving party has the initial burden of demonstrating that summary judgment is proper. <i>Adickes v. S.H. Kress & Co.</i> , 398 U.S. 144, 157 (1970). The moving party must identify the pleadings, depositions, affidavits, or other evidence that it "believes demonstrates the absence of a genuine issue of material fact." <i>Celotex</i>	

of the litigation and requires a trial to resolve the parties' differing versions of the truth." *S.E.C. v. Seaboard Corp.*, 677 F.2d 1301, 1306 (9th Cir. 1982).

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3	The burden then shifts to the opposing party to show that summary judgment is not	
4	appropriate. Celotex, 477 U.S. at 324. The opposing party's evidence is to be believed, and all	
5	justifiable inferences are to be drawn in its favor. Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 255	
6	(1986). However, to avoid summary judgment, the opposing party cannot rest solely on conclusory	
7	allegations. Berg v. Kincheloe, 794 F.2d 457, 459 (9th Cir. 1986). Instead, it must designate specific	
8	facts showing there is a genuine issue for trial. Id. See also Butler v. San Diego District Attorney's	
9	Office, 370 F.3d 956, 958 (9th Cir. 2004) (stating if defendant produces enough evidence to require	
10	plaintiff to go beyond pleadings, plaintiff must counter by producing evidence of his own). More than	
11	a "metaphysical doubt" is required to establish a genuine issue of material fact. Matsushita Elec.	
12	Indus. Co., Ltd. v. Zenith Radio Corp., 475 U.S. 574, 586 (1986).	
13	B. TILA Claims	
14	In their first claim for relief, Plaintiffs allege Defendants violated TILA. As a result of the	
15	violations, Plaintiffs seeks rescission, recoupment and damages.	
16	<u>1.</u> <u>Rescission</u>	
17	Defendants' primary argument in support of their motion for summary judgment on this claim	
18	concerns Plaintiffs' ability to tender. In its reply brief, however, Defendant Deutsche raises another	
19	argument that is dispositive of this claim, namely that the foreclosure sale terminated Plaintiffs' right	
20	to rescind. ⁵	
21	Title 15 U.S.C. § 1635(f) provides:	
22	An obligor's right of rescission shall expire three years after the date of consummation of the transaction or upon the sale of the property, whichever occurs first,	
23	notwithstanding the fact that the information and forms required under this section or any other disclosures required under this part have not been delivered to the obligor	
24		
25		
26		
27	⁵ Although the general rule is that arguments raised for the first time in a reply brief are	
28	waived, "a district court has the discretion to consider an argument first raised in a reply brief." <i>Lane v. Dep't of Interior</i> , 523 F.3d 1128, 1140 (9 th Cir. 2008). Because this argument goes to the viability of the claim, the Court will address it here.	
	6 00 0255	

1	15 U.S.C. § 1635(f). Here, there is no dispute that the property was sold on February 6, 2009. (Pls.'
2	Statement of Disputed and Undisputed Facts in Opp'n to Mot. for Summ. J., Def.'s Fact No. 30.) That
3	sale extinguished Plaintiffs' right to rescind, and thus Defendants are entitled to summary judgment
4	on this claim.
5	<u>2.</u> <u>Recoupment</u>
6	Next, Plaintiffs allege a claim for recoupment under TILA. Defendants assert this claim
7	applies only as a defense, and since Plaintiffs are not defending against any claims in this case,
8	recoupment does not apply. Plaintiffs do not address this argument.
9	In support of their claim for recoupment, Plaintiffs cited 15 U.S.C. § 1640(e) in the CSAC.
10	That statute:
11	does not bar a person from asserting a violation of this subchapter in an action to collect the debt which was brought more than one year from the date of the occurrence
12	of the violation as a matter of defense by recoupment or set-off in such action, except as otherwise provided by State law.
13	as otherwise provided by State law.
14	15 U.S.C. § 1640(e). Here, Plaintiffs are not defending against any action, therefore they are not
15	entitled to assert a claim for recoupment. See In re Smith, 737 F.2d 1549, 1555 (11th Cir. 1984)
16	(stating plaintiff cannot assert a claim for recoupment "because her demand is not in the nature of a
17	defense") Accordingly, Defendants are entitled to summary judgment on this claim.
18	<u>3.</u> <u>Damages</u>
19	Next, Plaintiffs allege a claim for damages under TILA. Defendants assert this claim is
20	untimely. Plaintiffs respond that Defendants' TILA violations were ongoing, and continued through
21	the date of the foreclosure sale on February 6, 2009. Applying the date of the foreclosure sale,
22	Plaintiffs argue their claim was timely filed.
23	TILA provides a one-year statute of limitations that begins to run from "the occurrence of the
24	violation." 15 U.S.C. § 1640(e). Generally, the violation occurs "at the time the loan documents were
25	signed." Meyer v. Ameriquest Mortgage Co., 342 F.3d 899, 902 (9th Cir. 2003). Although one circuit
26	court has applied the continuing violation theory to TILA claims, Postow v. OBA Federal Savings and
27	Loan Ass'n, 627 F.2d 1370, 1379-80 (D.C. Cir. 1980), the Ninth Circuit has rejected that approach.
28	King v. California, 784 F.2d 910, 914 (9th Cir. 1986). Absent that doctrine, Plaintiffs' claim for

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damages under TILA is untimely. Accordingly, Defendants' motion for summary judgment on this
 claim is granted, and Plaintiffs' motion for partial summary judgment on this claim is denied.⁶

3

C.

Misrepresentation and Emotional Distress Claims

4 The next claims at issue are Plaintiffs' claims for intentional and negligent misrepresentation 5 and intentional and negligent infliction of emotional distress. These claims are based on the conduct 6 of Elke Poerschke. Before being dismissed from this case, Poerschke filed a motion for summary 7 judgment on these claims. Defendants incorporate Poerschke's arguments into the present motions. 8 Defendants also argue they are not liable for these claims under an agency or conspiracy theory. 9 Plaintiffs dispute Poerschke's arguments and Defendants' arguments about agency. Plaintiffs do not 10 dispute the conspiracy theory, therefore the Court grants Defendants' motion for summary judgment 11 as to that theory. The other arguments are addressed below.

12

<u>1.</u> <u>Misrepresentation</u>

The elements of an intentional misrepresentation claim are: "(1) a misrepresentation, (2) with 13 knowledge of its falsity, (3) with the intent to induce another's reliance on the misrepresentation, (4) 14 justifiable reliance, and (5) resulting damage." Conroy v. Regents of Univ. of Cal., 45 Cal. 4th 1244, 15 1255 (2009) (citing Small v. Fritz Companies, Inc., 30 Cal. 4th 167, 173 (2003)). Negligent 16 17 misrepresentation requires a showing of the same elements with one exception: Negligent 18 misrepresentation "does not require intent to defraud but only the assertion, as a fact, of that which is not true, by one who has no reasonable ground for believing it to be true." Id. (citing Small, 30 Cal. 19 204th at 173-74). Defendants assert there are no genuine issues of material fact on any of these elements, 21 and they are entitled to judgment as a matter of law.

22

<u>Misrepresentation</u>

а.

There is no dispute about the representations at issue in this case. In the e-mail exchange with
Plaintiffs' counsel, Poerschke represented, first, that the foreclosure sale was on hold, and, second,
///

- 26
- ⁶ Defendants are also entitled to summary judgment on Plaintiffs' UCL claim to the extent it relies on a TILA violation. *See Rosal v. First Federal Bank of Cal.*, 671 F.Supp. 2d 1111, 1126 (N.D. Cal. 2009) ("To the extent that plaintiff's § 17200 claim is predicated on FFB's purported violations of TILA and its regulations, it fails as a matter of law.")

that the foreclosure sale was on hold "indefinitely." Plaintiffs do not appear to dispute that the first
 representation was true. However, they do dispute the accuracy of the second representation.

3 After reviewing the evidence, the Court finds there is a genuine issue of material fact about 4 whether this representation was true. Although Poerschke represented to Plaintiffs' counsel that the 5 foreclosure sale was on hold "indefinitely," Plaintiffs cite evidence that the foreclosure sale would only be on hold for sixty days. (See Poerschke's Notice of Lodgment in Supp. of Mot., Ex. C at 157-6 7 58.) Plaintiffs also present evidence that Poerschke was made aware of that fact on or around 8 November 3, 2008, which predates both of her representations to Plaintiffs' counsel. (*Id.*) In light 9 of this evidence, there is a genuine issue of material fact about whether Poerschke's statements to Plaintiffs' counsel were true.⁷ 10

11

b. Justifiable Reliance

Next, Defendants assert there is no evidence to support the element of justifiable reliance.
Defendants' argument is two-fold. First, they argue Plaintiffs did not change their position based on
Poerschke's representations. Second, Defendants assert Plaintiffs' counsel had access to information
about the foreclosure sale, and Plaintiffs were properly notified thereof.

16 Neither of these arguments demonstrates the absence of a genuine issue of material fact or that 17 Defendants are entitled to judgment as a matter of law. Contrary to Defendants' suggestion, the 18 element of justifiable reliance does not require affirmative action. Plaintiffs' failure to act may be 19 sufficient as long as it was caused by Poerschke's representations. Furthermore, "[i]t is well 20 established in California that in an action for fraud or deceit, negligence on the part of the plaintiff in 21 failing to discover the falsity of the defendant's statement is no defense when the misrepresentation was intentional." Manderville v. PCG & S Group, Inc., 146 Cal. App. 4th 1486, 1502 (2007) (citations 22 omitted).⁸ The Court is also mindful that "the reasonableness of the reliance is ordinarily a question 23 of fact." Guido v. Koopman, 1 Cal. App. 4th 837, 843 (1991) (citations omitted). This case is no 24

 ⁷ This evidence also raises a genuine issue of material fact on the scienter elements of Plaintiffs' misrepresentation claims and Plaintiffs' emotional distress claims.

⁸ To the extent Plaintiffs' negligence may be raised as an affirmative defense to the negligent misrepresentation claim, Defendants have not satisfied their burden of proof that they are entitled to summary judgment on that defense.

exception to that general rule. Accordingly, Defendants' argument on the element of justifiable
 reliance does not warrant summary judgment.

3

<u>Damage</u>

С.

4 Next, Defendants argue Plaintiffs did not suffer any damage as a result of Poerschke's 5 representations. Defendants appear to concede that Plaintiffs may have been damaged by the foreclosure sale of their home, but assert that harm "was not related to Poerschke's true 6 7 representations about the hold." (Poerschke's Mem. of P. & A. in Supp. of Mot. at 16.) This 8 argument sounds in causation, which is addressed by the justifiable reliance element of a misrepresentation claim. See Hall v. Time Inc., 158 Cal. App. 4th 847, 855 n.2 (2008) (stating 9 10 justifiable reliance is same as causation in fraud case). For the reasons discussed above, the Court 11 rejects this argument.

12

<u>d.</u> <u>Duty</u>

Finally, Defendants argue Poerschke did not owe Plaintiffs a fiduciary duty, therefore they are entitled to judgment as a matter of law. The absence of a fiduciary duty, however, does not defeat Plaintiffs' claim. *See Los Angeles Unified School Dist. v. Great Am. Ins. Co.*, 49 Cal. 4th 739, _____, 112 Cal. Rptr. 3d 230, 238 n.5 (2010) (stating tort law recognizes the existence of a duty "even in the absence of a fiduciary relationship.") Therefore, this argument does not warrant entry of summary judgment.

19

<u>2.</u> <u>Agency</u>

Turning to Defendants' next argument, the parties appear to agree that the two primary elements of an agency relationship are authority and control. (Deutsche's Mem. of P & A. in Supp. of Mot. at 14; Opp'n to Deutsche's Mot. at 11.) Defendants assert there is no evidence of either element, but Plaintiffs disagree. They cite the testimony of Ronaldo Reyes, Defendant's 30(b)(6) designee, and the PSA as evidence of both elements.

This evidence establishes that Defendants entered into a contractual relationship with Defendant Alliance, which later transferred its rights and obligations under the contract to Poerschke's undisputed employer, IndyMac. Pursuant to the PSA, IndyMac was responsible for communicating with borrowers about their loans, handling notices of rescission from borrowers and initiating

foreclosure proceedings, all on behalf of Defendants. (Def.'s Notice of Lodgment in Supp. of Mot., 1 2 Ex. A at 17, 18, 28, 29.) Defendants argue this evidence does not establish an agency relationship 3 between themselves and IndyMac or its employee, Poerschke. However, Plaintiffs need not establish 4 an agency relationship to defeat Defendants' motions. They need only raise a genuine issue of 5 material fact, and the evidence cited fulfills that purpose. In light of that evidence, and the general 6 rule that the existence of an agency relationship is a question of fact, Stilson v. Moulton-Niguel Water 7 Dist., 21 Cal. App. 3d 928, 936 (1971); Housewright v. Pacific Far East Line, Inc., 229 Cal. App. 2d 8 259, 265 (1964) (citing *Thayer v. Pacific Elec. Ry. Co.*, 55 Cal. 2d 430, 438 (1961)), the Court denies 9 Defendants' motions for summary judgment on Plaintiffs' misrepresentation and emotional distress 10 claims to the extent those claims rely on an agency theory.⁹

11

D. Quiet Title

12 Plaintiffs' next claim is for quiet title. Defendants argue they are entitled to judgment on this 13 claim because Plaintiffs cannot tender their unpaid debt. However, Defendants have failed to show 14 that Plaintiffs' present inability to tender entitles Defendants to summary judgment on this claim. The 15 only case cited by Defendants involves mortgagors and their obligation to tender before recovering 16 on a quiet title claim. (See Mem. of P. & A. in Supp. of Mot. at 18.) However, the foreclosure sale 17 extinguished the mortgage, and under those circumstances, it is not clear that Plaintiffs are required 18 to tender. See Fontana Land Co. v. Laughlin, 199 Cal. 625, 639 (1926) (citing Faxon v. All Persons, 19 166 Cal. 707(stating tender requirement did not apply when "the mortgage had become 20extinguished.") Thus, Defendants are not entitled to summary judgment on this claim.

21

E.

Breach of Contract

The final claim at issue is Plaintiffs' breach of contract claim. Defendants assert they are
entitled to judgment on this claim because they did not have a contract with Plaintiffs. Rather,
Defendants state Plaintiffs had a contract with Poerschke. However, as discussed above, Plaintiffs
have alleged there was an agency relationship between Poerschke and Defendants. Under that theory,
Defendants are not entitled to summary judgment on this claim.

27

⁹ The Court also denies Defendants' motion for summary judgment on Plaintiffs' UCL claim to the extent it relies this theory.

1	III.
2	CONCLUSION
3	For these reasons, the Court grants in part and denies in part Defendants' motions for summary
4	judgment. Specifically, the Court grants the motion as to Plaintiffs' TILA claim, Plaintiffs' UCL
5	claim to the extent it relies on the alleged TILA violation, and Plaintiffs' misrepresentation and
6	emotional distress claims to the extent they rely on a conspiracy theory. In all other respects,
7	Defendants' motions are denied. Plaintiffs' motion for partial summary judgment is also denied for
8	the reasons set out above.
9	IT IS SO ORDERED.
10	DATED: August 24, 2010
11	John m. Solom
12	HON. DANA M. SABRAW United States District Judge
13	Child Suits District studge
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