

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

<p>S &amp; L VITAMINS, INC.,  Plaintiff,  - vs. -  AUSTRALIAN GOLD, INC.,  Defendant.</p>	<p>CIVIL ACTION NO.  05-CV-1217 (JS) (MLO)  <b>ANSWER TO AMENDED COUNTERCLAIMS AND AMENDED THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT</b></p>
<p>AUSTRALIAN GOLD, INC.,  Third Party Plaintiff,  - vs. -  LARRY SAGARIN AND JOHN DOES 1-10,  Third Party Defendants.</p>	

Plaintiff/Counterclaim Defendant S&L Vitamins, Inc. and Third Party Defendant Larry Sagarin (collectively herein after "S&L"), by counsel, for their Answer, hereby state as follows:

**THE PARTIES**

1. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 1 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

2. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 2 of the

Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

3. S&L admits that a list of trademark-related documents is attached. These documents speak for themselves; S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the rest of the allegations contained in Paragraph 3 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

4. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 4 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

5. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 5 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

6. S&L admits that it does business on the internet and a retail location in Lindenhurst, but denies that it does business at the Miller Place location.

7. S&L admits that it sells Products but denies the rest of the allegations in Paragraph 7 of the Counterclaim.

8. S&L denies that Larry Sagarin is the owner of S&L Vitamins.

9. Admitted.

10. Denied.

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

11. Admitted.

12. Admitted.

**AUSTRALIAN GOLD'S DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

13. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 13 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

14. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 14 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

15. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 15 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

16. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 16 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

17. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 17 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

18. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 18 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

19. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 19 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

20. S&L admits that what purports to be a Distributor Agreement is attached as an exhibit; this document speaks for

itself. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the other allegations contained in Paragraph 20 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

21. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 21 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

22. The Distributor Agreement is a document that speaks for itself. Any other allegation in paragraph 22 contrary to the document is denied.

23. The Distributor Agreement is a document that speaks for itself. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the rest of the allegations contained in Paragraph 23 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

24. The Distributor Agreement is a document that speaks for itself. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the rest of the allegations contained in Paragraph 24 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

25. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 25 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

26. S&L admits that Australian Gold has sent at least one cease and desist letter, and filed at least one lawsuit, but is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the other allegations contained in Paragraph 26 of the Counterclaim and

therefore denies the same.

27. Denied.

28. Admitted.

29. S&L admits that it has a retail location in Lindenhurst, but denies that it has a location at Miller Place.

30. Admitted.

31. Admitted.

32. Admitted.

33. ???

34. Admitted.

35. Admitted.

36. Denied.

37. S&L admits that it used Australian Gold's Marks on its website, but not that it used them in metatags.

38. Denied.

39. S&L admits that it advertised and displayed Australian Gold products for sale by displaying a photograph and description of the Product.

40. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 5 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

41. S&L admits that it displays its own photographs of the Products on its website; the exhibits speak for themselves. S&L denies all allegations and characterizations of its

activities contained in Paragraph 41 of the Counterclaim.

42. Admitted.

43. Denied.

44. Denied.

45. S&L admits that it received a cease and desist letter, the contents of which speak for themselves, and that its counsel received a blank copy of what purported to be a Distributorship Agreement.

46. S&L admits that it purchases and sells its Products on its website, and that it has not disclosed proprietary information to Defendant, but denies the other allegations in Paragraph 46 of Defendant's Counterclaim.

47. S&L admits that it has sold Products in Europe, but denies the other allegations in Paragraph 47 of the Counterclaim.

48. Denied.

#### **COUNT I - TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT**

49. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-48 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.

50. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 50 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

51. S&L admits that it has used the Marks on its website, but denies the other allegations in Paragraph 51 of the Counterclaim.

52. Denied.

53. S&L admits that it has sold Products on the internet, but denies the other allegations in Paragraph 53 of the Counterclaim.

54. S&L admits that it has sold Products outside of the United States, but denies the other allegations in Paragraph 54 of the Counterclaim.

55. Denied.

56. Denied.

57. Denied.

**COUNT II - UNFAIR COMPETITION UNDER THE LANHAM ACT**

58. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-57 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.

59. Denied.

60. Denied.

61. Denied.

**COUNT III - TRADEMARK DILUTION**

62. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-61 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.

63. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 63 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

64. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge

as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 64 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

65. Denied.

66. Denied.

67. Denied.

68. Denied.

69. Denied.

**COUNT IV - TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE WITH CONTRACT**

70. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-69 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.

71. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 71 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

72. Denied.

73. Denied.

74. Denied.

75. Denied.

76. Denied.

77. Denied.

78. Denied.

**COUNT V - TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE WITH PROSPECTIVE ECONOMIC  
ADVANTAGE**

79. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-78 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.



80. S&L is without sufficient information or knowledge as to the allegations contained in Paragraph 80 of the Counterclaim and therefore denies the same.

81. Denied.

82. Denied.

**COUNT VI - UNFAIR COMPETITION AND DECEPTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES**

83. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-82 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.

84. Denied.

85. Denied.

86. Denied.

87. Denied.

88. Denied.

89. Denied.

90. Denied.

91. Paragraph 91 does not state an allegation for which response is necessary.

**COUNT VII - STATE LAW TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT**

92. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-91 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.

93. Denied.

94. Denied.

**COUNT VIII - FALSE ADVERTISING**

95. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-94 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.

96. Denied.

97. Denied.

**COUNT IX - INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

98. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-97 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.

99. Denied.

100. Denied.

101. Paragraph 101 of Defendant's Counterclaim does not state allegations which require a response.

102. Paragraph 102 of Defendant's Counterclaim does not state allegations which require a response.

**COUNT X - CONSPIRACY AND CONCERT OF ACTION**

103. S&L incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1-102 of its Answer as if fully set forth herein.

104. Denied.

105. Denied.

**AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

**FAILURE TO STATE A CLAIM**

Defendant has failed to state a claim for which relief can be granted.

**UNCLEAN HANDS**

Defendant's claims are barred by the doctrine of unclean hands.

**FAIR USE**

Any use by plaintiffs of trademarks owned by defendant was fair use and not trademark use.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiffs demand that defendant's counterclaim and third party claim be dismissed, with prejudice, in their entirety, and that plaintiffs be granted their attorneys fees and costs of suit.

Dated: August 18, 2005



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Ronald Coleman  
COLEMAN LAW FIRM  
A Professional Corporation  
Ronald D. Coleman (RC 3875)  
David Stein (DS 2119)  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
S & L Vitamins, Inc. and  
Third Party Defendant  
Larry Sagarin

**CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE**

The undersigned herewith certifies that on the date set forth below, a copy of the within **Answer to Amended Counterclaims and Amended Third Party Complaint** was served via Electronic Case Filing upon plaintiff's counsel:

Francis J. Earley, Esq.  
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.  
666 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10017

Dated: August 18, 2005

By:



Ronald Coleman (RC 3875)