EXHIBIT C

TATION AND PHETO 09 NOV 12 PH 3: 10 1 Alan Himmelfarb (SBN 90480) i arnfr KAMBEREDELSON, LLP 2 2757 Leonis Boulevard DEPUTY CLERK Vernon, California 90058 3 Telephone: (323) 585-8696 4 5 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS 6 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO 7 8 DEANNA PELLETIER, an Individual, on her Case No. FCS0 34684 own and on behalf of all others similarly situated, 9 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT Plaintiff, 10 AND JURY DEMAND 11 ASSIGNED TO JUDGE RAMMA GARRETT 12 PACIFIC WEBWORKS, INC., a Nevada corporation, and JOHN DOE DEFENDANT, 13 Defendants, 14 GFTECTIVE 01/04/2010 15 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL 16 Plaintiff, Deanna Pelletier, brings this Class Action Complaint against Defendant 17 Pacific WebWorks, Inc. and John Doe Defendant (hereinafter collectively referred to in the 18 singular as "Defendant") based upon Defendant's practice of deceptively billing Plaintiff and 19 similarly-situated others for unauthorized charges. Plaintiff, for her Class Action Complaint, 20 alleges as follows upon personal knowledge as to herself and her own acts and experiences 21 and, as to all other matters, upon information and belief, including investigation conducted 22 by her own attomoys. 23 **Parties** 24 Plaintiff Deanna Pelletier is a California resident residing in Vacaville, California. 25 1, Defendant Pacific WebWorks is an online provider of work-at-home products 2. 26

marketed to consumers nationwide. Pacific WebWorks is a Nevada corporation

27 28

Complaint

111M210272257,W-11/12/2009 3:51:08 PM

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

. 27 28

- 8. The offers hosted by Defendant Pacific WebWorks state that consumers will work directly with and be well-paid by the giant web search engine Google. The ability to work for this enormously successful company reasonably supports the promise of good income described in the offers from Defendant.
- 9. Defendant's offers begin as initial representations made through a common deceptive scheme, constituting spam email offers, sponsored links, banner ads on internet search pages, and links in fake news articles and fake blogs. The purpose of each of these initial representations is to drive consumer traffic to credit card submit landing pages at which a purchase can be made.
- 10. These sponsored links, banner ads, fake news articles, and similar methods of gaining a consumer's attention are created and operated by a group of affiliate marketers and ad networks whose sole objective is to drive traffic to merchant landing pages such as those selling Defendant Pacific WebWorks's products. John Doc Defendant acts in this space as an ad network and/or affiliate marketer, and in that capacity, actively drives traffic to Pacific WebWorks websites for its own monetary gain.
- transaction pages so as to drive ever-higher rates of purchase. Both are motivated to take this active role because the sales revenue generated on a Pacific WebWorks site is the only way that both Pacific WebWorks and the upstream ad networks are compensated. Therefore, the John Doe Defendant has a vested interest in not only directing consumers to the product page, but also ensuring and actively inducing the consumer to actually purchase the product. This optimization can include changing the design of ad pages in the order path including the color, words used, placement of words, font size, placement of the Terms of Service, and the use of such "pressures" as phrases like "You Qualify for Instant Access!" and "... these kits are going FAST!," or the use of running timers counting down the minutes left before an

Complaint

offer "expires." Such pressures are simply fabrications and are dynamically inserted into the website at specified screen locations to further drive sales.

- 12. As a primary inducement, consumers are often simply responding to the many initial representations and screenshots that appear to state a relationship with Google itself. The use of Google's name in this manner, and specifically the prospect of working for one of the world's most successful companies, appears as a primary non-price inducement to deceptively entice consumers to purchase the Pacific WebWorks product.
- 13. After a consumer is directed by a John Doe Defendant to a Pacific WebWorks landing page displaying a work-at-home offer, Defendant pushes a product, often a CD or software kit, purportedly designed to enable consumers to "Earn up to \$978 or more a day using GOOGLE," "Work from Home & learn to make \$1000s a day using GOOGLE!," and "Anyone with a computer and basic typing skills can make money using Google!"
- 14. These landing pages typically contain language describing their offering "As seen on: Fox News, CNN," and "USAToday." The website prominently features network logos without license from these media entities and are plainly designed to suggest to a consumer that the offering is supported by a reputable entity. Pacific WebWorks products have never been "seen on" or endorsed by any of the networks claimed on the website.
- 15. The initial landing page seen by a consumer is bright and welcoming, and promises "FAST CASH USING GOOGLE" and "HOME INCOME USING GOOGLE," among other pleasing inducements. Representations that drive consumers to these landing pages promise "\$7500 a month Working from Home Job: requires basic computer skills." Banner ads even promise "scarn free" offers that link to landing pages used by Defendant on which consumers are promised Pacific WebWorks products at prices that are not, in fact, remotely close to the actual price charged by Pacific WebWorks.
- 16. Defendant's landing pages contain a testimonial photo of a consumer that benefited from Defendant's product. In fact, this photo is a fake, inasmuch as Defendant simply uses a

2

3

5

6

9

10

11

12

13

18

19

20

21

2

3

4

10

9

11 12

13 14

> 15 16

18

17

19

20 21

> 22 23

24

25 26

- "Chicago Job News" at which "Jerry Reynolds" describes how he "lost his ¢. boring job as an account representative for a manufacturing company" and "now makes \$5,500+ a month just by submitting small text ads online on Google."
- "Scott Hunter" on "wthguide.info," a fake blog that states how Mr. Hunter also "lost his job as a boring account representative for a manufacturing company." "Scott" makes "\$9,000+ a month just by submitting small text ads on Google." Upon information and belief, "Scott Hunter" is the pseudonym of an affiliate marketer driving traffic to a Pacific WebWorks site.
- Defendant Pacific WebWorks also derives sales from online traffic routed through 18. fake consumer review sites. At these sites, alleged "advocates" for consumers endorse PacificWebWorks's products with laudatory language and within the body of the fake reviews link to deceptive transaction pages for those products.
- The online order path leading to Defendant's transaction pages are littered with 19. pictures of individuals that testify to the success they have enjoyed using Pacific WebWorks's product. The individuals in Defendant's fake photos are not from the consumer's city or state; in fact, the specific locale represented is dynamically generated by instructions contained in the underlying source code for the screen page presented. That is, "Sara Stanley" from "Sacramento" is in fact simply a fictitious person whose city name is generated by source code that recognizes and responds to the (Sacramento) IP address of the consumer's computer.
- A consumer is required to give Pacific WebWorks certain "personally identifying 20. information" (PII) to "CHECK AVAILABILITY" of this "LIMITED TIME OFFER!" A consumer's submission of her PII enables Pacific WebWorks to sell this information to other marketers of goods and products. Thus, a consumer actually does not have to "qualify" for anything, but is instead submitting to a lead generation process by which their PII (a "lead") is monetized by Pacific WebWorks and the consumer unknowingly "consents" to the receipt

Only the charge of \$1.97 is clearly and conspicuously disclosed to a consumer

its work-at-home product. Correspondingly, all Defendants optimize and continually oversee

described herein, and all receive significant revenue from the sale of each poorly-disclosed

8

the creation of the deceptive advertisements concealing material terms and conditions,

Pacific WebWorks acts with John Doe Defendant to drive traffic to, promote, and sell

1

2

3

4

5

6

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23 24

25262728

32.

33.

Complaint

responding to an offer from Defendant.

Pacific WebWorks product.

1

2

3

4

2

3

4

17 |

 all California residents who submitted credit card information to a Pacific WebWorks website for the purpose of obtaining Pacific WebWorks's products or services, who were charged any amount other than a stated shipping and handling or discounted fee, and that were traceably driven to a Pacific WebWorks website(s) by John Doe Defendant, or affiliate marketers acting through or in conjunction with John Doe Defendant.

The following people are excluded from the Class and SubClass: 1) any Judge or Magistrate presiding over this action and members of their families; 2) Defendant, Defendant's subsidiaries, parents, successors, predecessors, and any entity in which the Defendant or its parents have a controlling interest and its current or former employees, officers and directors; and 3) persons who properly execute and file a timely request for exclusion from the class and 4) the legal representatives, successors or assigns of any such excluded persons.

- 45. Hereinafter, the above-described Class and SubClass shall be stated as "Classes" for purposes of this Complaint.
- 46. Numerosity: The exact number of the members of the Classes is unknown and not available to Plaintiff, but it is clear that individual joinder is impracticable, in satisfaction of Code of Civil Procedure § 382. On information and belief, Defendant has deceived thousands of consumers who fall into the definitions set forth in the Class and SubClass. All members of the Classes can be identified through Defendant's records.
- 47. Typicality: Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of other members of the Classes, as Plaintiff and other members sustained damages arising out of the wrongful conduct of Defendant, based upon the same transactions which were uniformly made to Plaintiff and the public.
- 48. Adequate Representation: Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Classes, and has retained counsel competent and experienced in complex class actions. Plaintiff has no interest antagonistic to those of the Classes, and Defendant has no defenses unique to Plaintiff.

49. Predominance and Superiority: This class action is appropriate for certification because class proceedings are superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy, since joinder of all members is impracticable. The damages suffered by the individual members of the Classes will likely be relatively small, especially given the burden and expense of individual prosecution of the complex litigation necessitated by the actions of Defendant. It would be virtually impossible for the individual members of the Classes to obtain effective relief from the misconduct of Defendant. Even if members of the Classes themselves could sustain such individual litigation, it would still not be preferable to a class action, because individual litigation would increase the delay and expense to all parties due to the complex legal and factual controversies presented in this Complaint. By contrast, a class action presents far fewer management difficulties and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economy of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single Court. Economies of time, effort, and expense will be fostered and uniformity of decisions will be ensured.

- 50. Commonality: There are many questions of law and fact common to the claims of Plaintiff and the other members of the Classes, and those questions predominate over any questions that may affect individual members of the Classes. Common questions for the Classes include, but are not limited to the following:
 - (a) Whether Defendant's conduct described herein violates the False Advertising Law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code Sections 17500, et seq.), prohibiting deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any business, trade or commerce or in the furnishing of any service;
 - (b) Whether Defendant's conduct described herein violates the Consumers Legal Remedies Act (California Civil Code Sections 1750, et seq.), prohibiting the act, use or employment by any person of any deception, deceptive act or practice, fraud, false pretense, false promise,

misrepresentation, or concealment, suppression or omission of any material fact with intent that others rely upon such concealment, suppression or omission, in connection with the sale or advertisement of any merchandisc whether or not any person has in fact been misled, deceived or damaged thereby;

- (c) Whether Defendant's conduct described herein violates the Unfair Competition Law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code Sections 17200, et seq.), which protects both consumers and competitors by promoting fair competition in commercial markets for goods and services and prohibits any unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice;
- (d) Whether Defendant's conduct described herein results in unjust enrichment to Defendant.
- (e) Whether Defendant's conduct described herein results in a breach of contract.

COUNT I

Violation of the False Advertising Law California Businessand Professions Code Sections 17500, et seq. (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Classes)

- 51. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the foregoing allegations.
- 52. Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500 provides that it is unlawful for any corporation to knowingly make, by means of any advertising device or otherwise, any untrue or misleading statement with the intent to sell a product or service, or to induce the public to purchase a product or service. Any statement in advertising that is likely to deceive members of the public constitutes false and misleading advertising under Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500.
- 53. As described within, Defendant has disseminated, and continues to disseminate advertising that it knows or should reasonably know is false and misleading. This conduct includes, but it is not limited to, promoting and advertising "work-at-home" products without

Complaint

2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11

12

- Defendant utilizes false and deceptive advertising that both conceals the actual price of the product and widely and willfully misrepresents testimonial support for the product
- Defendant's offers contain unconscionable terms in that they are unfair and inequitable and the material terms of the offers are hidden and actively misrepresented by
- Defendant, acting with knowledge, intentionally and unlawfully brought harm upon Plaintiff and the Classes by deceptively inducing the Plaintiff and all members of the Class and SubClass to purchase a product with deceptive and misleading advertisements by failing to clearly and conspicuously disclose the price of the goods and services and by placing unauthorized charges on their credit card accounts. Specifically, Defendant violated Cal. Civ. Code § 1750 in at least the following respects:
 - In violation of § 1770(a)(2) by misrepresenting the source, sponsorship, approval, or certification of Defendant's goods or services;
 - In violation of § 1770(a)(3) by misrepresenting the affiliation, connection, or association with, or certification by, a third party in relation to Defendant's
 - In violation of § 1770(a)(9) by advertising Defendant's goods or services with the intent not to sell them as advertised;
 - In violation of § 1770(a)(13) by making false or misleading statements of fact concerning the reasons for, existence of, or amounts of price reductions related
 - In violation of § 1770(a)(14) by Defendant's acts and omissions in representing that a transaction confers or involves rights, remedies, or obligations which it does not have or involve, or which are prohibited by law;
 - In violation of § 1770(a)(19) by inserting an unconscionable provision in (f)

1

2 3

4

5

6

7

8

the offer for Defendant's goods and services;

- 63. Plaintiff and the Classes have suffered harm as a proximate result of the violations of law and wrongful conduct of the Defendant.
- 64. Under Cal. Civ. Code § 1780(a) and (b), Plaintiff and the Classes seek injunctive relief requiring Defendant to cease and desist the illegal conduct stated in this Complaint, and any other appropriate remedy for violations of the CLRA. For the sake of clarity, Plaintiff explicitly disclaims any claim for damages under the CLRA at this time.

<u>COUNT III</u> Violation of the Unfair Competition Law California Business and Professions Code Sections 17200, et seq. (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Classes)

- 65. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the foregoing allegations.
- 66. California's Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq., protects both consumers and competitors by promoting fair competition in commercial markets for goods and services.
- 67. The UCL prohibits any unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice. A business practice need only meet one of the three criteria to be considered unfair competition. An unlawful business practice is anything that can properly be called a business practice and that at the same time is forbidden by law. A fraudulent business practice is one in which members of the public are likely to be deceived.
- 68. As described within, Defendant's continued utilization of unlawful and unconscionable marketing practices, and the continuing practice of charging consumers credit cards without authorization, constitutes an unlawful and unfair business practice in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.
- 69. In deceiving Plaintiff and the Classes by creating and supporting advertising that fails to clearly and conspicuously disclose the actual price of its products, and inducing Plaintiff and members of the Class and SubClass to proffer payment information based on that

Complaint

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

26 27 28 and (3) pay interest, attorney's fees, and costs pursuant to Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 1021.5.

COUNT IV Restitution/Unjust Enrichment (On Behalf of the Plaintiff and the Classes)

- 78. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the foregoing allegations.
- 79. Plaintiff and members of the Class and SubClass conferred a monetary benefit on Defendant. Defendant has received and retained money belonging to Plaintiff and the Classes resulting from substantial and unauthorized charges placed on their credit card bills by Pacific WebWorks. Defendant profits from each individual purchase made by a consumer after being directed to Pacific WebWorks's transaction pages.
- 80. Defendant appreciates or has knowledge of such benefit.
- 81. Under principles of equity and good conscience, Defendant should not be permitted to retain the money belonging to Plaintiff and members of the Classes, which Defendant has unjustly received as a result of its unlawful actions.
- 82. Plaintiff and other members of the Classes suffered damages as a direct result of Defendant's conduct.
- 83. Plaintiff, on her own behalf, and on behalf of the Classes, seeks restitution for Defendant's unlawful conduct, as well as interest and attorney's fees and costs.

COUNT V Breach of Contract (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Pacific WebWorks Class)

- 84. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the foregoing allegations.
- 85. In reliance upon Defendants' misrepresentations and deceptive advertising, Plaintiff entered into a contract to receive a product from Pacific WebWorks at a genuinely discounted price, or for the cost of shipping and handling only. Because of these deceptive misrepresentations, Plaintiff and the Pacific WebWorks Class entered their credit card information with the understanding that they would only be charged a genuinely discounted price or the cost of shipping and handling in exchange for a product from Pacific WebWorks.
- 86. By cramming additional undisclosed charges on the credit/debit cards of Plaintiff and the members of the Pacific WebWorks Class, Pacific WebWorks breached the contract for

Complaint

COUNT IV Restitution/Unjust Enrichment (On Behalf of the Plaintiff and the Classes)

- 78. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the foregoing allegations.
- 79. Plaintiff and members of the Class and SubClass conferred a monetary benefit on Defendant. Defendant has received and retained money belonging to Plaintiff and the Classes resulting from substantial and unauthorized charges placed on their credit card bills by Pacific WebWorks. Defendant profits from each individual purchase made by a consumer after being directed to Pacific WebWorks's transaction pages.
- 80. Defendant appreciates or has knowledge of such benefit.
- 81. Under principles of equity and good conscience, Defendant should not be permitted to retain the money belonging to Plaintiff and members of the Classes, which Defendant has unjustly received as a result of its unlawful actions.
- 82. Plaintiff and other members of the Classes suffered damages as a direct result of Defendant's conduct.
- Plaintiff, on her own behalf, and on behalf of the Classes, seeks restitution for Defendant's unlawful conduct, as well as interest and attorney's fees and costs.

COUNT V

Breach of Contract (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Pacific WebWorks Class)

- 84. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the foregoing allegations.
- 85. In reliance upon Defendants' misrepresentations and deceptive advertising, Plaintiff entered into a contract to receive a product from Pacific WebWorks at a genuinely discounted price, or for the cost of shipping and handling only. Because of these deceptive misrepresentations, Plaintiff and the Pacific WebWorks Class entered their credit card information with the understanding that they would only be charged a genuinely discounted price or the cost of shipping and handling in exchange for a product from Pacific WebWorks.
- 86. By cramming additional undisclosed charges on the credit/debit cards of Plaintiff and the members of the Pacific WebWorks Class, Pacific WebWorks breached the contract for

Complaint

the purchase of a product at the clearly disclosed price described above. Plaintiff and the members of the Pacific WebWorks Class did not assent to any additional charges and did not reasonably expect that the contract for purchase and sale would include such additional charges.

- 87. At all times relevant to this action, Pacific WebWorks acted willfully and with the intent to breach the contracts they entered into with Plaintiff and the Pacific WebWorks Class.
- 88. Plaintiff and the Pacific WebWorks Class have suffered damages as a direct result of Pacific WebWorks's acts and practices in the form of monies paid and lost.
- 89. Plaintiff, on her own behalf, and on behalf of the Pacific WebWorks Class, seek damages for Defendant's breach of contract, as well as interest and attorney's fees and costs pursuant to Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 1021.5.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Deanna Pelletier on behalf of herself and members of the Class and SubClass, pray for the following relief:

- a. Certify this case as a class action on behalf of the Class and SubClass as defined above and appoint Deanna Pelletier as class representative and undersigned counsel as lead counsel of this class action;
- b. Enter judgment against Pacific WebWorks and John Doe Defendant, Inc. for all monetary, actual, consequential, and compensatory damages caused by its unlawful conduct;
- c. Award Plaintiff and the Classes civil penalties and/or punitive damages for violations of the above-cited statutes and law. (For the sake of clarity, Plaintiff explicitly disclaims any claim for damages under the CLRA at this time.)
 - d. Award Plaintiff and the Classes reasonable costs and attorneys' fees;
 - e. Award Plaintiff and the Classes pre- and post-judgment interest;

- 11		
1	f. Enter judgment for injunctive, statutory and/or declaratory relief as is	
2	necessary to protect the interests of Plaintiff and the Classes; and,	
3	g. Award such other and further relief as equity and justice may require.	
4		
5	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	TURY DEMAND
-]]		JOREA DIMINATED
6	Plaintiff requests trial by jury of all claims that can be so tried.	
7		
8		
9	Dated: November 12, 2009	KAMBERENESSEELE
ιo		Alan Himmelfarb
11		One of the Attorneys for DEANNA
12		PELLETIER, individually and on behalf of a class of similarly situated individuals
13		
14		
15	Alan Himmelfarb (SBN 90480) KAMBEREDELSON, LLP	
	2757 Leonis Boulevard	
16	Vernon, California 90058 Telephone: (323) 585-8696	
17		
18	Will Haselden FL Bar No. 0072011	
19	(pro hac vice motion to be filed)	
20	Christopher Dore IL Bar No. 6299670	
21	(pro hac vice motion to be filed)	
22	KAMBEREDELSON, LLC 350 North LaSalle, Suite 1300	
	Chicago, Illinois 60654 Telephone: (312) 589-6370	
23	whaselden@kamberedelson.com	
24	cdore@ kamberedelson.com	
25		
26		
27		
28	Complaint	
	11 .	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·