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#### JU<u>RISD</u>ICTION A<u>ND VENUE</u>

- 1. This action arises under the Lanham Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. §§
  1114, 1116, 1117, 1125(a), and 1125(c)); California Business & Professions Code
  §§ 14320, 14330, 17200, et seq., and 17500; and California common law.

  Jurisdiction is proper under 15 U.S.C. § 1121 and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338(a) and
  1338(b). Jurisdiction is also proper pursuant to this Court's supplemental
  jurisdiction as provided in 28 U.S.C. § 1367 in that the state law claims alleged
  herein are so related to the federal claims that they form part of the same case or
  controversy under Article III of the United States Constitution.
- 2. Venue is proper in this Judicial District under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and 1391(c) in that Defendants markets its business to customers within this Judicial District via the internet and events or omissions giving rise to the claims including resulting damages occurred herein.

#### <u>THE PARTIES</u>

- 3. Plaintiff JOHN RIGBY & CO. (GUNMAKERS), INC. ("Plaintiff") is a California corporation, having its principal place of business at located at 500 Linne Road, Suite D. Paso Robles, CA 93446. Plaintiff is the exclusive owner of the trademarks which form the basis of this action.
- a. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, that
   Defendant JOHN RIGBY & CO. (GUNMAKERS), Ltd. (hereinafter individually

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"U.K. Company Defendant") is a U.K. company, having its principal place of business at Vicarage House - 58-60 Kensington Church Street - Kensington - London W8 4DB, UK, and is conducting business in California via the Internet, including this Judicial District and is likewise conducting specific acts complained of in this complaint in California, including this Judicial District.

- b. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, that Defendant PETER NERVING (hereinafter individually "Nerving") is a Denmark citizen, residing and domiciled at Roennedevej 4, Roennede 4683, DK, and is conducting business in California via the Internet, including this Judicial District and is likewise conducting specific acts complained of in this complaint in California, including this Judicial District.
- c. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, that
  Defendant MARK NEAL (hereinafter individually "Neal") is a United Kingdom
  citizen, residing and domicifed at Vicarage House 58-60 Kensington Church
  Street · Kensington London W8 4DB, UK, and is conducting business in
  California via the Internet, including this Judicial District and is likewise
  conducting specific acts complained of in this complaint in California, including
  this Judicial District.
- d. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities of Defendants such herein as DOES 1 - 10, inclusive, and therefore such said Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will amend this Complaint to allege said Defendants'

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true names and capacities when ascertained.

c. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges that each of the aforementioned Defendants acted at all times alleged berein as the agent, employee, representative, and/or alter ego of the other Defendants; is responsible in some manner for the occurrences alleged berein; and caused the injuries alleged herein. The Defendants together with the Does shall hereinafter be referred to collectively as "Defendants.".

#### GENERAL ALLEGATIONS PLAINTIFF AND THE JOHN RIGBY & CO. MARKS

- 5. Plaintiff custom makes, manufactures, sells, distributes, advertises, and licenses various types of rifles, shotguns and ammunition under its world renowned JOHN RIGBY & CO. trademarks .
- Plaintiff utilizes its JOHN RIGBY & CO, trademarks in various. 6. combinations on its products, in sales catalogs and in advertising and marketing materials to identify them as originating from Plaintiff.
- 7. Plaintiff's JOHN RIGBY & CO, marks are extremely well-known in the United States, the United Kingdom and worldwide. This high level of name recognition among the public gives these marks lucrative appeal.
- 8. In addition to the longstanding, international use and goodwill. mentioned above, Plaintiff has registered its JOHN RIGBY & CO. marks at the United States Federal level, and in the United Kingdom. Presently, Plaintiff is the

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owner of the following U.S. Federally Registered trademarks, among others: No.
1386739 for the mark JOHN RIGBY & CO, which was registered with the USPTO
on March 18, 1986 for Rifles, Shotguns and Ammunition in International Class 136
No. 1411231 for the mark RIGBY'S which was registered with the USPTO on
September 30, 1986 for Rifles, Shotguns and Ammunition in International Class
13; and No. 3500785 for the mark JR EST. 1735, which was registered with the
USPTO on September 16, 2008 for the following goods: Rifles, Shotguns and
Ammunition in International Class 13.

- 9. Plaintiff's above referenced trademarks are hereinafter collectively. referred to as the "JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks."
- For almost three centuries Plaintiff and its predecessors in interest 10. have made guns upon which men have staked their lives, including hunting rifles, 'hest' sidelock shotgans and other firearms for more serious situations. Righy's quality and reliability has been such that John Righy & Co. has received Royal Warrants from five British Monarchs dating from the Eighteenth Century to the present day.
- In addition to this worldwide fame and goodwill dating back to the 1 . 1700's, as a result of Plaintiff's efforts through advertising, promotions, sales, and customer service, as well as favorable recommendations by Plaintiff's customers, Plaintiff's JOHN RIGBY & CO, products have achieved enormous popularity. among the public. As a result of these efforts and Plaintiff's and its predecessors in

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interest's exclusive use of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks have acquired substantial goodwiff and secondary meaning for a long period of time, serving as an indicator of Plaintiff as the source of origin of its products.

12. By virtue of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks' inherent distinctiveness. and acquired secondary meaning; the long duration and international usage exclusively by Plaintiff and its predecessors in interest of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks for rifles, shotguns and ammunition, and related products and services; Plaintiff's extensive advertising and publicity of the JOHN RJGBY & CO. Marks; and the extremely high degree of recognition of the mark in the trading areas and channels of trade used by Plaintiff; the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, and each of them, are famous under 15 U.S.C. § 1125(c)(1) of the Federal Trademark Dilution. Act of 1995.

# Defendants' Unlawful Conduct; Trademark Infringement, Unfair Competition and Trademark Dilution

- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, that 13. Defendants market and sell custom made rifles and shotguns under the name JOHN RIGBY & CO (GUNMAKERS), LTD and JNO, RIGBY & CO, and have improperly registered the infringing domain name www.johnrigbylondon.com to sell competing knock-off products.
  - Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, that ]4.

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Defendants have advertised their services using the JOHN RIGBY & CO, Marks in international magazines and on the Internet, where consumers confuse its products and services with Plaintiff's products sold right alongside one another and in search results.

- 15. Defendants have no right, license or other authority from Plaintiff to use any of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks for any purpose.
- 16. Defendants knew of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks and that the same were owned by someone other than themselves; knew that the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks were distinctive and famous; and knew that Defendants had not received any authority from Plaintiff to use the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks or any other marks confusingly similar thereto, for any purposes.
- Defendants' unlawful activities result in irreparable injury and damage to Plaintiff's reputation.
- 18. Additionally, Defendants' unlawful activities injure the public by depriving the public of the right to be free of confusion in the marketplace.
- 19. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, that Defendant has deliberately, willfully, and maliciously used the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks in order to trade on the goodwill that Plaintiff has attained in the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks and to confuse the public into believing that Defendants' unauthorized use is licensed or authorized by Plaintiff.

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### FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

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(Federal Trademark Infringement)

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20.	This claim for relief arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1114 and is alleged
inst all I	Defendants.

- Plaintiff reaflege the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 19 of this 21. Complaint as though fully set forth berein.
- 22. Plaintiff is the owner of the Federally Registered trademarks, including the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks set forth above. These trademarks are inherently distinctive and have, in addition, acquired substantial goodwill and secondary meaning.
- 23. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, that Defendants are using marks confusingly similar or identical to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks.
- 24. Defendants have not been authorized by Plaintiff to use any JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks or any mark similar thereto, for any purpose whatsoever, including the use of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks in connection with shotguns, rifles or any products of any kind.
- 25. Defendants' enauthorized use of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks or any mark similar thereto is likely to confuse the public as to the source, origin, sponsorship and affiliation of the goods sold by Defendants.
  - Defendants' unauthorized use is likely leading the public to believe

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Defendants' goods are sponsored by Plaintiff, or with the permission, approval or endorsement of Plaintiff.

- Defendants' unlawful activities injure the public by depriving the 27. public of the right to be free from confusion in the marketplace.
- 28. By reason of this unauthorized use of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, Defendants have unlawfully and wrongfully derived, and will continue to unlawfully and wrongfully derive, income and profits from these infringing acts, and Plaintiff has sustained, and will continue to sustain, substantial injury, loss and damage in an amount according to proof.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, that this 29. infringing use by Defendants has been deliberate and willful, entitling Plaintiff to increased damages and attorneys fees,
- 30. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, unless restrained and enjoined by this Court, Defendants will continue to infringe Plaintiff's trademark rights and cause confusion, deception and mistake among the trade and the consuming public as to the source and sponsorship of the services. provided and sold by Defendants.
- 31. Defendants' activities have caused Plaintiff irreparable injury and unless Defendants' acts are immediately and permanently enjoined, Defendants will continue to use the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, thus continuing to infringe upon Plaintiff's rights.

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32. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

#### SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(California Trademark Infringement)

- 33. This claim for relief arises under California Business & Professions. Code § 14320 and California common law and is affected against all Defendants.
- 34. Plaintiff realleges the allegations in paragraphs 21 through 32 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 35. Plaintiff is the owner of common law trademarks, and federally registered trademarks, including the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks set forth above, These trademarks are inherently distinctive and have, in addition, acquired substantial goodwill and secondary meaning.
- 36. Defendants' unauthorized use of marks confusingly similar to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks is likely to confuse the public as to the source, origin, sponsorship and affiliation of the goods sold by Defendants.
- 37. Defendants have infringed upon Plaintiff's rights by using marks. confusingly similar to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks in connection with their goods well after Plaintiff had used the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks and made them famous.
- By reason of this unauthorized use of marks confusingly similar to the 38. Plaintiff's Marks, Defendants have unlawfully and wrongfully derived, and will continue to unlawfully and wrongfully derive, income and profits from these

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infringing acts, and Plaintiff has sustained, and will continue to sustain, substantial injury, loss and damage in an amount according to proof.

- 39. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, that this infringing use by Defendants has been deliberate and willful, entitling Plaintiff to increased damages and attorneys fees.
- **4**0. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges, unless restrained and enjoined by this Court, Defendants will continue to infringe Plaintiff's trademark rights and cause confusion, deception and mistake among the trade and the consuming public as to the source of the goods sold by Defendants.
- Defendants' activities have caused Plaintiff irreparable injury and 41. unless Defendants' acts are immediately and permanently enjoined, Plaintiff will continue to suffer irreparable harm and injury.
  - 42. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

#### THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Federal Unfair Competition)

- 43. This claim for relief arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a) and is alleged. against all Defendants.
- 44. Plaintiff realleges the allegations in paragraphs 34 through 42 of this. Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- As alleged previously, Plaintiff is the owner of the JOHN RIGBY & 45. CO. Marks, which trademarks have acquired substantial goodwill and secondary

meaning.

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46. As also alleged above, Defendants have used marks confusingly. similar to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks in connection with Defendants'

competing guns, without permission or authority from Plaintiff.

- Defendants have not obtained from Plaintiff any license or other 47. permission to use any of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks or marks confusingly similar thereto for any purpose whatsoever.
- 48. Defendants' unauthorized use of marks confusingly similar to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, constitutes a false designation of origin and false or misleading representation of fact, which is likely to cause confusion, mistake, or to deceive customers and potential customers as to the source, origin, sponsorship and affiliation of the goods sold by Defendants.
- 49. Defendants' above-mentioned use of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, and marks confusingly similar thereto constitute violations of Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)),
- Defendants have unlawfully and wrongfully derived, and will continue 50. to unlawfully and wrongfully derive, income and profits from these acts of false designation of origin and false representation, and Plaintiff has sustained, and will continue to sustain, substantial injury, loss and damage in an amount to be provenat trial.
  - Defendants' activities have caused Plaintiff irreparable injury and 51. 12

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unless Defendants' acts are immediately and permanently enjoined, Plaintiff will continue to suffer irreparable harm and injury.

Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

#### FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(California Unfair Competition)

- This claim for relief arises under the California Business &
   Professions Code §§17200, et seq. and 17500 and is alleged against all Defendants.
- 54. Plaintiff realleges the allegations in paragraphs 44 through 52 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 55. Defendants' conduct is unfair and deceptive behavior pursued in the course of their businesses in that their actions were likely to deceive present and potential customers of Defendants and of Plaintiff.
- 56. Defendants have willfully decided to unfairly compete with Plaintiff by misappropriating Plaintiff's proprietary Marks by unlawfully using marks confusingly similar to Plaintiff's proprietary marks in an attempt to trade on Plaintiff's goodwill and confuse consumers as to the source, origin, sponsorship and affiliation of the goods sold by Defendants.
- 57. Defendants have unlawfully derived income and profits from their activities and will continue to so derive income and profits from their acts of unfair competition, and Plaintiff has sustained, and will continue to sustain, substantial injury, loss and damage in an amount according to proof.

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- 58. Defendants' activities have caused Plaintiff irreparable injury and unless Defendants' acts are immediately and permanently enjoined, Plaintiff will continue to suffer irreparable harm and injury,
  - Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law. 59.

#### FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Federal Trademark Dilution)

- 60. This claim for relief arises under 15 U.S.C. §1125(c) and is alleged against all Defendants.
- Plaintiff realleges the allegations in paragraphs 54 through 59 of this 61. Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- Plaintiff is the owner of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, set forth 62. above. These trademarks are inherently distinctive, have acquired substantial goodwill and secondary meaning, and are famous within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § £125(c)(1) of the Federal Trademark Dilution Act of 1995.
- 63. Defendants are using marks confusingly similar to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks without authorization from Plaintiff in connection with the custommanufacture and sale of guns.
- 64. Defendants have not been authorized by Plaintiff to use any of the JOHN RJGBY & CO. Marks or any marks confusingly similar thereto for any purpose whatsoever, including the manufacture and sale of guns.
  - Defendants' use of marks confusingly similar to the JOHN RIGBY &

CO. Marks dilutes the marks by lessening their capacity to identify and distinguish Plaintiff's goods in the stream of commerce.

- 66. Defendants' use of marks confusingly similar to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks occurred only after the marks had become famous.
- 67. By reason of this unauthorized use of marks confusingly similar to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, Defendants have unlawfully and wrongfully derived, and will continue to unlawfully and wrongfully derive, income and profits from these diluting acts, and Plaintiff has sustained, and will continue to sustain, substantial injury, loss and damage in an amount according to proof.
- 68. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges that, through this use. Defendants deliberately and willfully intended to trade on the goodwill that Plaintiff has attained in the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks and to cause dilution of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, entitling Plaintiff to increased damages and attorneys fees.
- 69. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges that, unless restrained and enjoined by this Court, Defendants will continue to use marks confusingly similar to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, thus continuing to cause the dilution of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks.
- 70. Defendants' activities have caused Plaintiff irreparable injury and unless Defendants' acts are immediately and permanently enjoined, Plaintiff will continue to suffer irreparable harm and injury.

71. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

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#### SIXTH CLAIM OF RELIEF

(California Trademark Dilution)

- 72. This claim for relief arises under California Business & Professions Code § 14330, and is alleged against all Defendants.
- **7**3. Plaintiff realleges the allegations of paragraphs 61 through 71 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 74. Plaintiff is the owner of common law trademarks, and federally registered trademarks, including the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks set forth above. These trademarks are inherently distinctive and have, in addition, acquired substantial goodwill and secondary meaning.
- 75. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such basis alleges that Defendants, with full knowledge of the public recognition of the IOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks, have used marks confusingly similar to the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks on their goods, on their website, and in Internet marketing of products without authorization from Plaintiff.
- The aforementioned actions of Defendants have caused, and are likely 76. to continue to cause, injury to Plaintiff's business and professional reputation and to dilute the distinctive quality of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks in violation of Section 14330 of the California Business & Professions Code.
  - 77. Defendants' activities have caused Plaintiff irreparable injury and

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unless Defendants' acts are immediately and permanently enjoined, Plaintiff will continue to suffer irreparable harm and injury.

Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants as follows:

- 1. That the Court issue a preliminary injunction restraining, enjoining and prohibiting Defendants, and their officers, agents, employees and attorneys, and any person in active concert or participation with them or who are acting under their direction, and each of them, from the following:
- (a) diluting the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks and damaging Plaintiff's goodwill, reputation and business related thereto,
- (b) using the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks in any manner or form or any mark confusingly similar thereto, including but not limited to JOHN RIGBY & CO. (GUNMAKERS), LTD, and JNO RIGBY &CO., and from causing, contributing to or participating in, the unauthorized display and/or distribution of the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks to the public in connection with any service or product,
- (c) engaging in conduct which tends falsely to represent or is likely to confuse, mislead or deceive members of the public,
  - (d) Otherwise unfairly competing with Plaintiff in any manner, and
- (e) Continuing to perform in any manner whatsoever any of the other acts complained of in this Complaint;
  - That this Court issue a permanent injunction, prohibiting Defendants

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from directly or indirectly diluting or infringing the JOHN RIGBY & CO. Marks in any manner or form or any mark confusingly similar thereto, including but not limited to JOHN RIGBY & CO. (GUNMAKERS), LTD. and JNO RIGBY &CO., and in any manner unfairly competing with Plaintiff; and from inducing, or contributing to or participating in any such acts referred to in paragraph 1 of this prayer;

- 3. That the Court award Plaintiff its damages from Defendants including recovery of any compensatory damages sustained by Plaintiff as a result of Defendants' diluting, infringing and/or tortuous activities described herein;
- That the Court order Defendants to account for all gains, profits and advances derived by Defendants from the acts complained of, together with appropriate interest thereon;
- 5. That the Court further award Plaintiff an increase in damages in an amount found or assessed as a result of willful acts of trademark dilution, trademark infringement, and unfair competition under 15 U.S.C. § 1117;
- That Defendants pay Plaintiff's costs and disbursements in this action, together with reasonable attorneys' fees;
  - That Plaintiff be awarded punitive damages;
- That Defendants domain name johnrigbylondon.com be transferred to Plaintiff; and
  - 8. That Plaintiff have such other and further relief as the Court may deem

## Hosted on www.iptrademarkattorney.com ľ just and proper. DATED: August 24 2009 CHARLSTON, REVICH & WOLLITZ LLP r Naintiff, John Rigby & П (0.0010038 DDC X-1)(00010538 DDC X-20100005

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