JEFF FINE
Clerk of the Superior Court
By Maye Patterson, Deputy
Date 03/07/2025 Time 09:55:20
Description Amount
------ CASEM CV2025-008402
CIVIL NEW COMPLAINT 367.00 W

Receipt# 30177739

KRISTIN K. MAYES
ATTORNEY GENERAL
(Firm State Bar No. 14000)
SHANE M. HAM (BAR NO. 027753)
LIZA M. LAWSON (BAR NO. 039016)
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
2005 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1692
Telephone: (602) 542-7716
Facsimile: (602) 542-4377
Email: Shane.Ham@azag.gov
Liza.Lawson@azag.gov

consumer@azag.gov

Attorneys for the State of Arizona

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

STATE OF ARIZONA, ex rel. KRISTIN K. MAYES, Attorney General,

Plaintiff,

-vs.-

CAMERON JONES. unmarried an individual; GAZELLE INVESTORS. LLC, a Utah limited liability company; ARIZONA'S HELPING HANDS LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; GAZELLE HOLDINGS, LLC, a Utah liability limited company; 11940WELCORTEZ LLC, an Arizona liability limited company; 1025ECARSONDR LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 10828 BILTMORE DR 162 LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 11805BLOOMFIELD LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 10247EJEROME LLC, an Arizona limited Case No:

CV 2025 008402

COMPLAINT

(Consumer Fraud; Racketeering; Injunctive Relief)

16

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

17 18

2021

19

22

23

2425

liability company; 169N49TH LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 2106N30TH LLC, an Arizona limited 2225WROSSAVE liability company; LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 2324EBALBOADR LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 23WCORONADO LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 2725WMACKENZIEDR LLC, Arizona limited liability company; 2WCARIBBEANLN LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 8047S2NDST Arizona limited liability LLC, an **2WPARADISE** company; LLC. Arizona limited liability company; 3421 WTANGERINELN LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 3716WSANDRATER LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 4645N15THAVE LLC. Arizona an limited liability company; LLC. 6503WVILLADR Arizona an limited liability company; 7369WBROWN LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 7EANDERSON LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 8426WWILLOWAVE LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; 9643SCALLEVAUNAWI LLC, limited liability Arizona company; EVOGELAVE LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; N7THDR LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; WASHLAND LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; WLAMARRD LLC, an limited liability Arizona company; AZPLEXS HOLDINGS, LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; CJPLEXS HOLDINGS LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; BUY&HOLD 123 LLC, a Delaware limited liability

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

company; BUYHOLDINGS01 LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; SOUTH **MOUNTAIN** REDEVELOPMENT LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; PHASE 1 SMD Delaware limited liability LLC, company; DOROTHY JONES, a married individual: SALVADOR HUESCA ORTIZ, a married individual; JANE DOE HUESCA. married individual: a ETHEREUM LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; HUESCA & CO LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; RIPPLE LLC, an Arizona limited liability **EVELYN** company; HUESCA, individual: DANIEL CARRILLO. an unmarried individual; **MITCHELL** MENDEZ, an unmarried individual; SAMUEL SUTTON, married individual; DANIELLE SUTTON, married individual: **MAGNUM** FINANCIAL LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; INVEST IN AZ, LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; TODD CAMPBELL, an individual; BRAD BERDINE, a married individual; JANE DOE BERDINE, a married individual; JENNIFER HERBST; individual; **AJOY** AUGUSTINE, individual: JOHN N. MOORE, individual; SIMPLE REALTY BITS LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; A-Z HOMES LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; R.P.E LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; ARIZONA HOUSES, LLC. Arizona an limited liability company; MAGNUS TITLE AGENCY Arizona limited LLC, an liability company; AMERICAN TITLE SERVICE AGENCY, L.L.C., an Arizona limited liability company; FOWLER ST. CLAIR, PLLC, an Arizona professional limited

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

liability company; ZONA LAW GROUP P.C., an Arizona professional corporation; DOES 1-100; BLACK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES 1-100; GREEN PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES 1-100; BLUE CORPORATIONS 1-100; YELLOW PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS 1-100;

Defendants.

Δ

_

For its Complaint against the defendants captioned above, the State of Arizona *ex rel*. Kristin K. Mayes, Attorney General (the "State") alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

- 1. This action involves a convoluted scheme by the defendants to strip Arizona homeowners of millions of dollars of equity in their homes.
- 2. Equity stripping schemes target homeowners who have significant equity in their homes, but are facing foreclosure by their mortgage lenders. Unlike "under water" homes where the mortgage balance is higher than the fair market value of the property, these high-equity homes are worth significantly more than the balance of the mortgage in foreclosure.
- 3. When a home in foreclosure is sold at a trustee's auction, the presence of competing bidders tends to move the final purchase price close to the fair market value of the property. When a high-equity home is auctioned, the purchase price generally exceeds the balance due to the mortgage lender and other lienholders. Under Arizona law, those excess funds are returned to the homeowner. When this occurs, the homeowner loses the property but keeps the equity in the form of excess cash from the auction.
- 4. The entire purpose of the equity stripping scheme is to prevent the distressed homeowner from receiving that excess cash by blocking the auction, and tricking the homeowner into selling the home far below the fair market value. Then the schemers flip the property to an investor, frequently in the same escrow transaction. Instead of an investor making a winning bid at auction and the equity going to the homeowner, the investor gives that equity to the schemers, diverting millions of dollars from distressed homeowners to the pockets of the conspirators.
- 5. No rational homeowner would enter into a deal like the ones offered by equity strippers, so the equity strippers have to trick the homeowners into signing the paperwork, and then they have to rely on lawyers and title companies to help them close these dirty transactions and take ownership of the properties. The scheme relies on lying to homeowners, mortgage lenders, and courts.

- 6. The scheme operated by Defendants typically started when a mortgage lender initiated a foreclosure auction, causing a notice of the auction date to be recorded with the county recorder. Using technology tools developed as part of the scheme, Defendants would immediately download the notices, quickly compare the value of the property to the balance of the foreclosed mortgage, and identify the homes with significant equity.
- 7. The addresses of those high-equity homes were then distributed by Defendants or their agents (via purpose-built app or text messaging) to a team of drivers that moved around nearly constantly from morning to night. The drivers were recruited for this task by word of mouth and online recruiting services. In at least one instance, Defendants hosted a seminar purporting to teach people how to get rich in the real estate industry—an "educational" experience that was actually designed as a ruse to identify potential recruits.
- 8. Upon receiving a text message or alert, Defendants' agent drivers would immediately rush to the home in the notification with the goal of contacting the homeowner or, alternatively, gathering information to locate the homeowner. Drivers were coached to be, and were, very aggressive when performing this task. They would knock on doors for prolonged periods to overcome the resistance of anyone who might be inside trying to ignore them, just as they were trained to do. If nobody answered, indicating the owner(s) might not be home, the drivers would often trespass on the property to take photos, and knock on the doors of multiple neighbors to get information about the owners of the targeted homes.
- 9. When those efforts did not lead to contact with the homeowners, the drivers would also leave notes on the doors of those homes. Drivers were trained to make false statements in those notes, such as "I am working with your lender." In some instances, the notes were designed to impersonate a delivery service, with phone numbers that routed to an answering service to set appointments for delivery of important documents.
- 10. On the occasions they did make contact with their targets, the drivers would deploy tested strategies to gain the trust of homeowners, by fraudulently claiming to be "home advocates"

or "hardship specialists" from organizations such as "Arizona's Helping Hands." One training script instructed drivers to tell homeowners "what I mainly do is help people by guiding them through the foreclosure process and offer myself as a resource to you . . . About 20% of the time, with our [sic] we help people keep their home."

- 11. These were lies. Defendants had no intention of providing foreclosure assistance to any homeowner unless the end result was Defendants taking ownership of the property at a price far below the fair market value.
- 12. Defendants' false and misleading statements were intended to trick homeowners into signing documents to sell their homes while in a moment of extreme duress. Drivers would either act alone or call in "closers" to present a purchase agreement and other documents to homeowners facing foreclosure, and secure their signatures on documents giving Defendants a legal interest and/or complete ownership of their homes.
- 13. Despite numerous homeowners expressly saying they did not want to sell their homes, they would often sign these documents because the drivers and closers fraudulently claimed that the documents merely authorized the schemers to contact the mortgage company and delay the pending foreclosure auction.
- 14. The terms of these purchase agreements were profoundly unfair to the homeowners. The purchase price was usually a small fraction of the home's fair market value. The earnest money deposit, intended to demonstrate a real estate purchaser's seriousness and good faith to the seller, was usually a negligible amount, often only \$10 and sometimes zero.
- 15. In addition to gutting the purpose of the earnest money deposit, the purchase agreements contained unlawful and unconscionable cancellation clauses. The clauses prohibited the homeowner from cancelling the transaction for any reason, while Defendants were allowed to cancel at any time for any reason and receive a full refund of the paltry earnest money deposit.
- 16. Under Arizona law, these unlawful purchase agreements are not merely unenforceable, they are void *ab initio*. Because only the homeowners were bound by the

agreements, the agreements lacked mutuality of obligation and were not "contracts" at all, meaning under Arizona law they are treated as if they never existed in the first place.

- 17. Defendants also tricked these unsuspecting homeowners into signing paperwork to initiate probate cases or bankruptcy cases.
- 18. In transactions where the legal owner of the home had passed away, Defendants would convince a purported heir to sell the home for a fraction of its fair value, and then Defendants would exercise total control over probate proceedings, including filing the forms with the court. Their goal was to use the probate process to create legal authority for the targeted heir to sell the home—but without telling the probate court that that sale had already occurred or disclosing Defendants' involvement.
- 19. Similarly, Defendants would file bankruptcy petitions for homeowners just to temporarily freeze foreclosure auctions and give themselves time to take properties from homeowners. Defendants would intentionally file petitions with incomplete paperwork, knowing that the incomplete filing would lead to automatic dismissal of the bankruptcy proceeding within a matter of days, at which point Defendants would pounce and close the transaction.
- 20. These legal filings were often prepared fraudulently, without the knowledge or assistance of the homeowner. One probate case filing claimed that the person who signed Defendants' purchase agreement was the only heir eligible to act as personal representative, because the deceased homeowner's daughter had also died. In fact, the supposedly dead daughter had already initiated a probate case for the homeowner several days earlier.
- 21. In at least two instances, bankruptcy petitions were filed with the homeowners' names spelled incorrectly, which cannot happen unless someone besides the homeowner was preparing and filing the paperwork.
- 22. Assisting in this scheme were multiple title companies. In addition to selling title insurance policies, the title companies provided escrow services, under which they were to act as trusted neutrals with fiduciary duties to both buyers and sellers. In fact, the title companies

coveted the high volume of transactions generated by the equity stripping schemes, and competed for that business by ignoring obvious signs that the schemes were not legal or ethical.

- 23. Many homeowners complained angrily to Defendants when they realized Defendants had scammed them out of their homes. In one conversation, surreptitiously recorded by one of the defendants, a homeowner on the verge of tears yelled, "I told you straight up, all the way through, all the way through, that I want to save my house! I want to save my house! I don't want to lose my house! I do not want to move!" The callous response from one defendant showed no regard for the homeowner's pain, but instead offered pretzel logic: "Let's be clear, saving the house and staying in the house are two separate things. So we have saved your house." Many homeowners fell victim to this ruse, where the home is "saved" because the mortgage lender did not take the home and evict the homeowner, even though Defendants took the home and evicted the homeowner.
- 24. When homeowners learned they had been scammed and refused to go forward with the transaction, the law firms stepped in to assist the scheme. Defendant lawyers filed lawsuits against homeowners to force the sales to go through. Even though the purchase agreements were not valid contracts, these lawsuits often succeeded because the financially distressed homeowners could not afford to hire legal counsel to defend themselves, or were simply confused that the "home advocate" who claimed to "help" them were actually suing them. As a result, courts would enter default judgments without ever addressing the legality of the equity stripping scheme. With a default judgment secured, another Defendant lawyer would file suit to evict the homeowners from the homes that had been stolen from them.
- 25. Over a span of nearly ten years, Defendants ran this scam, or variations of it, on hundreds of homeowners. In doing so, they transferred millions of dollars from vulnerable consumers into their own pockets. Most of them are still at it today.
- 26. This suit seeks a permanent injunction against the fraudulent and illegal activities, forfeiture of property gained through this scheme, and civil penalties substantial enough to

dissuade Defendants from forming new companies and starting the scheme all over again.

PARTIES

Plaintiff

27. Plaintiff is the State of Arizona *ex rel*. Kristin K. Mayes, the Attorney General of Arizona, who is authorized to bring this action pursuant to the Consumer Fraud Act (A.R.S. §§ 44-1521 to 44-1534) and the Racketeering Act (A.R.S. §§ 13-2301 to 13-2315).

Defendants

- 28. Defendant **Cameron Jones** is an individual who at all relevant times resided, and currently resides, in Maricopa County, Arizona. On information and belief, Cameron Jones is not married. Cameron Jones is one of the two highest ranking persons in the racketeering enterprise as alleged herein.
- 29. Defendant Gazelle Investors, LLC ("Gazelle Investors") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Utah. Although originally organized by Defendant Dorothy Jones, since at least 2017, the sole member and manager of Gazelle Investors has been Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, Gazelle Investors is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones. Gazelle Investors is the primary entity through which or on behalf of which the illegal acts alleged herein were performed and as such is a key entity in the racketeering enterprise.
- 30. Defendant **Arizona's Helping Hands LLC** ("Arizona's Helping Hands") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of Arizona's Helping Hands is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, Arizona's Helping Hands is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones created Arizona's Helping Hands to deceive distressed homeowners into believing that Jones and his associates represented a charitable organization that could help the homeowners keep their homes.
 - 31. Defendant Gazelle Holdings, LLC ("Gazelle Holdings") is a limited liability

company organized under the laws of the state of Utah. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of Gazelle Holdings is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, Gazelle Holdings is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.

- 32. Defendant **11940WELCORTEZ LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 11940WELCORTEZ LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 11940WELCORTEZ LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 33. Defendant **1025ECARSONDR LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 1025ECARSONDR LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 1025ECARSONDR LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 34. Defendant **10828 BILTMORE DR 162 LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of BILTMORE DR 162 LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, BILTMORE DR 162 LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 35. Defendant **11805BLOOMFIELD LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 11805BLOOMFIELD LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 11805BLOOMFIELD LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 36. Defendant **10247EJEROME LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 10247EJEROME LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 10247EJEROME LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 37. Defendant **169N49TH LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 169N49TH LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 169N49TH LLC is an alter ego of

38.

laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 2106N30TH LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 2106N30TH LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.

39. Defendant 2225WROSSAVE LLC is a limited liability company organized under

Defendant 2106N30TH LLC is a limited liability company organized under the

- 39. Defendant **2225WROSSAVE LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 2225WROSSAVE LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 2225WROSSAVE LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 40. Defendant **2324EBALBOADR LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 2324EBALBOADR LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 2324EBALBOADR LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 41. Defendant **23WCORONADO LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 23WCORONADO LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 23WCORONADO LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 42. Defendant **2725WMACKENZIEDR LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 2725WMACKENZIEDR LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 2725WMACKENZIEDR LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 43. Defendant **2WCARIBBEANLN LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of **2WCARIBBEANLN LLC** is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, **2WCARIBBEANLN LLC** is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
 - 44. Defendant 8047S2NDST LLC is a limited liability company organized under the

laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 8047S2NDST LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 8047S2NDST LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.

- 45. Defendant **2WPARADISE LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 2WPARADISE LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 2WPARADISE LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 46. Defendant **3421WTANGERINELN LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 3421WTANGERINELN LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 3421WTANGERINELN LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 47. Defendant **3716WSANDRATER LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 3716WSANDRATER LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 3716WSANDRATER LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 48. Defendant **4645N15THAVE LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 4645N15THAVE LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 4645N15THAVE LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 49. Defendant **6503WVILLADR LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 6503WVILLADR LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 6503WVILLADR LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 50. Defendant **7369WBROWN LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 7369WBROWN LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 7369WBROWN

- 51. Defendant **7EANDERSON LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 7EANDERSON LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 7EANDERSON LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 52. Defendant **8426WWILLOWAVE LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of **8426WWILLOWAVE LLC** is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, **8426WWILLOWAVE LLC** is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 53. Defendant **9643SCALLEVAUNAWI LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of 9643SCALLEVAUNAWI LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, 9643SCALLEVAUNAWI LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 54. Defendant **EVOGELAVE LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of EVOGELAVE LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, EVOGELAVE LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 55. Defendant **N7THDR LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of N7THDR LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, N7THDR LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 56. Defendant **WASHLAND LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of WASHLAND LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, WASHLAND LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
 - 57. Defendant WLAMARRD LLC is a limited liability company organized under the

- 58. Defendant **AZplexs Holdings, LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of AZplexs Holdings, LLC is Defendant Gazelle Investors, LLC. As such, on information and belief, Defendant AZplexs Holdings, LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 59. Defendant **CJplexs Holdings LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the members and managers of CJplexs Holdings LLC are Defendant Gazelle Investors, LLC, Defendant Magnum Financial, LLC, and Defendant Simple Realty Bits, LLC.
- 60. Defendant **BUY&HOLD 123 LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Delaware. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of BUY&HOLD 123 LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, BUY&HOLD 123 LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 61. Defendant **BUYHOLDINGS01 LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of BUYHOLDINGS01 LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, BUYHOLDINGS01 LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 62. Defendant **South Mountain Redevelopment LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Delaware. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of South Mountain Redevelopment LLC is Defendant Phase 1 SMD LLC. On information and belief, South Mountain Redevelopment LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 63. Defendant **Phase 1 SMD LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Delaware. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of Phase

1 SMD LLC is Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, Phase 1 SMD LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones.

- 64. Defendant **Dorothy Jones** is a married individual residing in Maricopa County, Arizona. Dorothy Jones is the mother of Defendant Cameron Jones and a co-founder of Defendant Gazelle Investors, LLC. On information and belief, Dorothy Jones' transferred her interest in Gazelle Investors, LLC to Cameron Jones in 2017 but continued to act as a bookkeeper for the equity stripping enterprise after the transfer and until the date of this Complaint.
- 65. Defendant **Salvador Huesca Ortiz** ("Sal Huesca") is a married individual residing in Maricopa County, Arizona. On information and belief, all actions taken by Defendant Sal Huesca in relation to the claims set forth herein were intended to benefit the marital community.
- 66. Defendant **Jane Doe Huesca** is the spouse of Defendant Sal Huesca. On information and belief, Jane Doe Huesca benefitted from actions taken on behalf of the marital community. The State will amend this Complaint to add the full name once known.
- 67. Defendant **Ethereum LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, Defendant Sal Huesca has used Ethereum LLC to engage in real estate transactions that are the subject of this action. On information and belief, Ethereum LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Sal Huesca.
- 68. Defendant **Huesca & Co LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of Huesca & Co LLC is Defendant Sal Huesca. On information and belief, Huesca & Co LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Sal Huesca.
- 69. Defendant **Ripple Ilc** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of Ripple Ilc is Defendant Sal Huesca. On information and belief, Ripple Ilc is an alter ego of Defendant Sal Huesca.
 - 70. Defendant Evelyn Huesca is an individual who, on information and belief, resides

in Maricopa County, Arizona. Defendant Evelyn Huesca served as a driver and door knocker for Defendant A-Z Homes.

- 71. Defendant **Daniel Carrillo** is an individual residing in Maricopa County, Arizona. Defendant Daniel Carrillo served as a driver and door knocker for Defendants A-Z Homes and Gazelle Investors, and sometimes informed homeowners that he represents a limited liability company that never existed.
- 72. Defendant **Mitchell Mendez** is an individual residing in Maricopa County, Arizona. Defendant Mitchell Mendez served as a driver and door knocker for Defendant Gazelle Investors.
- 73. Defendant **Samuel Sutton** is a married individual residing in Maricopa County, Arizona. On information and belief, all actions taken by Defendant Samuel Sutton in relation to the claims set forth herein were intended to benefit the marital community.
- 74. Defendant **Danielle Sutton** is the spouse of Samuel Sutton and is named in this lawsuit to provide full notice to the marital community. On information and belief, Defendant Danielle Sutton played an advisory role in the operations of Defendant A-Z Homes and was an active participant in the equity stripping scheme. Defendant Danielle Sutton currently holds a Real Estate Salesperson license issued by the Arizona Department of Real Estate. On information and belief, at all relevant times Defendant Danielle Sutton acted for the benefit of the marital community.
- 75. Defendant **Magnum Financial LLC** ("Magnum Financial") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of Magnum Financial is Defendant Samuel Sutton. On information and belief, Magnum Financial is an alter ego of Defendant Samuel Sutton.
- 76. Defendant **Invest In AZ, LLC** ("Invest in AZ") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of Invest in AZ was an individual herein referred to as "Partner C", until his death in 2024. "Partner C" was a licensed real estate broker in Arizona who, along with Defendants

Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton, formed a joint venture to carry out the illegal acts, omissions, and practices alleged herein (the "A-Z Homes Joint Venture").

- 77. Defendant **Todd Campbell** is an individual residing in the state of Colorado. Defendant Campbell served as a mindset and business coach during all phases of the equity stripping scheme. On information and belief, Defendant Campbell served as chief operations officer for the A-Z Homes Joint Venture.
- 78. Defendant **Brad Berdine** is, on information and belief, a married individual residing in Maricopa County, Arizona. On information and belief, Defendant Brad Berdine acted at all relevant times to benefit the marital community.
- 79. Defendant **Jane Doe Berdine** is the fictitiously named spouse of Brad Berdine. The State will amend its Complaint to include this defendant's correct name when discovered. On information and belief, this defendant had no direct involvement in the acts, omissions, and practices alleged herein, and is named in this lawsuit solely to provide full notice to the marital community.
- 80. Defendant **Jennifer Herbst** is, on information and belief, an individual residing in Maricopa County, Arizona. Defendant Jennifer Herbst served as a driver and door knocker for the A-Z Homes Joint Venture and separately for Defendant Invest in AZ.
- 81. Defendant **Ajoy Augustine** is, on information and belief, an individual residing in Maricopa County, Arizona. Ajoy Augustine served as an administrative assistant for Defendants A-Z Homes, Arizona Houses, and Magnum Financial. As such, Defendant Ajoy Augustine was at all relevant times fully aware of the events leading to the allegations herein relating to the A-Z Homes Joint Venture and Magnum Financial.
- 82. Defendant **John N. Moore** is, on information and belief, a resident of Virginia who holds a current license to practice law in the State of Arizona. Defendant John N. Moore has been admitted to practice law since 1974, and admitted to the State Bar of Arizona since May 2017. Defendant John N. Moore was, at all relevant times, counsel for Defendant Samuel Sutton. At

certain relevant times, Defendant John N. Moore held himself out as an attorney for other individuals and entities involved in the allegations set forth herein.

- 83. Defendant **Simple Realty Bits LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, the sole member and manager of Simple Realty Bits LLC is Defendant Brad Berdine. On information and belief, Simple Realty Bits LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Brad Berdine.
- 84. Defendant A-Z Homes LLC ("A-Z Homes") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Nevada as a manager-managed limited liability company. At formation, Defendant Gazelle Investors was a 34% member of A-Z Homes while Defendants Magnum Financial and Invest in AZ were each 33% members. At formation, Defendants Gazelle Investors, LLC, Magnum Financial, LLC, and Invest in AZ, LLC were all managers of A-Z Homes pursuant to the operating agreement. Although it engaged in numerous real estate transactions in Arizona while acting through managers who were all located in Arizona, Defendant A-Z Homes has never been registered to conduct business in Arizona.
- 85. Defendant **R.P.E LLC** is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Nevada. On information and belief, R.P.E LLC was organized at the direction of Defendant Cameron Jones for the purpose of forming a separate joint venture with some other defendants in this action, but the entity was never used for that purpose. On information and belief, Defendant R.P.E LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Cameron Jones
- 86. Defendant **Arizona Houses**, **LLC** ("Arizona Houses") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona. On information and belief, Arizona Houses, LLC is an alter ego of Defendant Samuel Sutton and was used originally by Defendant Samuel Sutton for the fraudulent transfer of property from joint control with Defendant Cameron Jones to the sole control of Defendant Samuel Sutton.
- 87. Defendant **Magnus Title Agency LLC** ("Magnus Title") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona and engaged in the business of providing

title insurance and escrow services for real estate transactions. Magnus Title operated as part of the racketeering enterprise by enabling the illegal transactions alleged herein.

- 88. Defendant **American Title Service Agency**, **L.L.C.** ("American Title") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona and engaged in the business of providing title insurance and escrow services for real estate transactions. American Title operated as part of the racketeering enterprise by enabling the illegal transactions alleged herein.
- 89. Defendant **Fowler St. Clair, PLLC** ("Fowler St. Clair") is a professional limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of Arizona and engaged in the practice of law. At least two attorneys at Fowler St. Clair, Brian Locker and Dustin Schanaker, participated in the racketeering enterprise by filing suit to enforce void contracts and enabling misleading and/or fraudulent probate court filings.
- 90. Defendant **Zona Law Group P.C.** ("Zona Law") is a professional corporation organized under the laws of the state of Arizona and engaged in the practice of law. Zona Law participated in the racketeering enterprise by representing Jones entities in proceedings to evict homeowners whose homes were taken from them by Jones and those associated in fact with Jones. At least one attorney at Zona Law, Scott Williams, directly assisted Cameron Jones in these actions and/or provided blank legal forms to Cameron Jones to be used in improper eviction proceedings.
- 91. Defendants Does 1-100 are fictitiously named individuals currently unknown to the State who are a part of the racketeering enterprise. If and when the actual identities of these individuals become known to the State, they will be joined to this action to provide notice and an opportunity to be heard regarding the remedies sought by the State.
- 92. Defendants Black Limited Liability Companies 1-100 are fictitiously named limited liability companies currently unknown to the State who are a part of the racketeering enterprise. If and when the actual identities of these entities become known to the State, they will be joined to this action to provide notice and an opportunity to be heard regarding the remedies sought by

the State.

- 93. Defendants Green Professional Limited Liability Companies 1-100 are fictitiously named professional limited liability companies currently unknown to the State who are a part of the racketeering enterprise. If and when the actual identities of these entities become known to the State, they will be joined to this action to provide notice and an opportunity to be heard regarding the remedies sought by the State.
- 94. Defendants Blue Corporations 1-100 are fictitiously named corporations currently unknown to the State who are a part of the racketeering enterprise. If and when the actual identities of these entities become known to the State, they will be joined to this action to provide notice and an opportunity to be heard regarding the remedies sought by the State.
- 95. Defendants Yellow Professional Corporations 1-100 are fictitiously named professional corporations currently unknown to the State who are a part of the racketeering enterprise. If and when the actual identities of these entities become known to the State, they will be joined to this action to provide notice and an opportunity to be heard regarding the remedies sought by the State.
- 96. Defendants Gazelle Investors, LLC; Arizona's Helping Hands LLC; Gazelle Holdings, LLC; 11940WELCORTEZ LLC; 1025ECARSONDR LLC; 10828 BILTMORE DR 162 LLC; 11805BLOOMFIELD LLC; 10247EJEROME LLC; 169N49TH LLC; 2106N30TH LLC; 2225WROSSAVE LLC; 2324EBALBOADR LLC; 23WCORONADO LLC; 2725WMACKENZIEDR LLC; 2WCARIBBEANLN LLC; 8047S2NDST LLC; 2WPARADISE LLC; 3421WTANGERINELN LLC; 3716WSANDRATER LLC; 4645N15THAVE LLC; 6503WVILLADR LLC; 7369WBROWN LLC; 7EANDERSON LLC; 8426WWILLOWAVE LLC; 9643SCALLEVAUNAWILLC; EVOGELAVE LLC; N7THDR LLC; WASHLAND LLC; WLAMARRD LLC; AZplexs Holdings, LLC; BUY&HOLD 123 LLC; BUYHOLDINGS01 LLC; South Mountain Redevelopment LLC; R.P.E LLC; and Phase 1 SMD LLC are herein referred to collectively as the Cameron Jones Alter Ego Entities.

- 97. Defendants Magnum Financial LLC and Arizona Houses, LLC are herein referred to collectively as the **Samuel Sutton Alter Ego Entities**.
- 98. Defendants Ethereum LLC; Huesca & Co LLC; and Ripple llc are herein known as the Sal Huesca Alter Ego Entities.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 99. The State brings this action pursuant to the Consumer Fraud Act ("CFA"), A.R.S. §§ 44-1521 to 44-1534; and the Racketeering Act, A.R.S. §§ 13-2301 to 13-2315.
 - 100. This Court has subject-matter jurisdiction pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-123.
 - 101. Venue is proper in Maricopa County pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-401(17).
- 102. The State's claims set forth herein are not barred by any statute of limitations pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-510.
- 103. Pursuant to Rule 26.2 of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, this action is subject to the Tier 3 discovery limits. Upon proper application, the State will seek additional discovery beyond these limits.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

Gazelle Investors

- 104. In approximately 2014 Defendants Cameron Jones and Dorothy Jones attended a seminar in Las Vegas, Nevada that purported to teach people how to become wealthy in the real estate industry.
- 105. On or about January 14, 2015, Cameron Jones and Dorothy Jones caused the filing of articles of organization for Defendant Gazelle Investors in Utah. The 2015 articles of organization listed Dorothy Jones as the sole member and manager of Gazelle Investors.
- 106. At some point between January 2015 and August 2017, Defendants Cameron Jones and Dorothy Jones decided to remove Dorothy from membership in Gazelle Investors and add Cameron as the sole member and manager. However, Defendant Dorothy Jones remained an active participant in the equity stripping scheme by performing bookkeeping services for

- 107. On or about August 21, 2017 Cameron Jones executed an operating agreement for Gazelle Investors, characterizing the entity as a "Single Member Limited Liability Company." Cameron Jones presented this 2017 operating agreement to multiple title companies to demonstrate his legal authority to act on behalf of Gazelle Investors. Defendant Cameron Jones also falsely told multiple escrow officers that Defendant Gazelle Investors has no operating agreement.
- 108. The 2017 operating agreement for Gazelle Investors falsely stated that the company "shall commence operations as of the date of this Agreement" even though the company had been operating since 2015 and had been sued in Maricopa County in 2016 for deceiving a woman into transferring ownership of her home to Gazelle Investors.
- 109. Since 2015, Gazelle Investors has been the named buyer in at least 129 written agreements for the sale of real estate in Arizona. Defendant Cameron Jones, through his Alter Ego Entities, has been involved in hundreds more transactions, both completed and abandoned.

The A-Z Homes Joint Venture

- 110. At some point between 2015 and 2016, Defendant Cameron Jones began a business relationship with Defendant Samuel Sutton. Defendant Samuel Sutton had engaged in equity stripping schemes through his alter ego company, Defendant Magnum Financial, for a period of time prior to joining up with Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 111. In approximately this same time period, Partner C joined Defendant Cameron Jones and Defendant Samuel Sutton to form a joint venture. This led to the creation of Defendant A-Z Homes on or about October 23, 2017.
- 112. Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton had multiple reasons for creating the A-Z Homes Joint Venture, but the central goal was to grow and expand their equity stripping scheme.
 - 113. One purpose of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture was building out a team of drivers

and door knockers, in order to beat the competition in the race to make contact with distressed homeowners and victimize them before the homeowners had a chance to fully explore their options.

- 114. Another purpose of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture was developing technology tools to streamline the process of discovering newly filed trustee sale notices and distributing that information to the drivers as quickly as possible. One internal communication indicated that the joint venture aimed to knock on a distressed homeowner's door within 20 minutes of a trustee sale notice being posted on the county recorder's web site.
- 115. Assisting with the technology buildout was Defendant Brad Berdine and his alter ego company, Defendant Simple Realty Bits LLC. At first, the three partners in A-Z Homes hired Defendant Berdine to develop a mobile application that added public data and notetaking capability to a standard maps application.
- 116. Eventually the parties decided to form another joint venture through Defendant R.P.E LLC with the goal of licensing the application being built for A-Z Homes to other equity stripping scammers in other states. Although the limited liability company was officially organized, Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, and Brad Berdine never finalized and executed an operating agreement.
- 117. Defendant Berdine was aware of the fraudulent training materials used by the A-Z Homes Joint Venture. On information and belief, Defendant Berdine played a key role in producing and distributing fraudulent training materials.
- 118. Defendant Todd Campbell is a "coach" who was engaged by the A-Z Homes Joint Venture to provide "mindset" training to drivers, door knockers, and partners in the joint venture. The purpose of the "mindset" training was to focus the persons recruited as drivers on the goal of making as much money as possible, as well as holding these purported independent contractors "accountable" if they did not work long hours generating leads for the equity stripping scheme.
 - 119. On information and belief, Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton, along

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

with Partner C, eventually engaged Defendant Campbell to act as chief operating officer, or at a minimum agreed to tell others outside the company that Defendant Campbell was the chief operating officer of the joint venture. On information and belief, in addition to his primary responsibility of altering the mindset of drivers and door knockers to get them to work harder, Defendant Campbell was responsible for mediating conflicts between Defendant Cameron Jones. Defendant Samuel Sutton, and Partner C.

- 120. Defendant Campbell participated in numerous weekly training sessions where he pressed the team of drivers to devote more time to generating leads for the principals of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture, as well as reinforcing the fraudulent practices the joint venture partners trained the drivers to deploy when dealing with distressed homeowners.
- On information and belief, without the efforts of Defendant Campbell, the A-Z 121. Homes Joint Venture would have broken up sooner than it did due to rampant infighting and lack of respect among Defendant Cameron Jones, Defendant Samuel Sutton, and Partner C.
- 122. Defendant Ajoy Augustine worked as an administrative assistant for the A-Z Homes Joint Venture. At all relevant times Defendant Augustine was aware of all transactions conducted by the A-Z Homes Joint Venture, the accounting for the transactions, and the persons involved in the transactions including title companies and law firms. At all relevant times Defendant Augustine was aware of the fraudulent nature of the training materials developed and used by the A-Z Homes Joint Venture. At all relevant times Defendant Augustine was aware of the numerous disputes, complaints, lawsuits, and reports to the Attorney General that occurred as a result of the illegal business practices of the defendants participating in the A-Z Homes Joint Venture.

A-Z Homes Joint Venture Driver Recruiting Tricks

The key to success for the A-Z Homes Joint Venture was maximizing the number 123. of doors knocked each day in order to find valuable leads—namely distressed homeowners who could be defrauded into signing documents giving the joint venture partners an interest in their homes. Recruiting a large number of committed drivers and door knockers was key to the success

- 124. Some of this recruitment occurred person to person. For example, Defendant Sal Huesca personally communicated with multiple individuals to recruit them into the equity stripping scheme, promising on at least one occasion that it is possible to earn a six-figure income as a driver or door knocker.
- 125. Defendant Cameron Jones, Defendant Samuel Sutton, Partner C, and Defendant Campbell all encouraged and incentivized this person-to-person recruitment by promising higher profit sharing and promotions for those drivers who were able to recruit and supervise their own team of drivers. Drivers who supervised their own recruits were promoted to "coach" and in theory could eventually be promoted to "closer." On information and belief, Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton never intended for their drivers to become closers because they did not want to share the profit of the scheme in a way that could be considered fair or equitable.
- 126. Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Berdine, and Campbell also sponsored and produced a real estate training seminar in conjunction with individuals who had sponsored a similar seminar in Dallas.
- 127. The A-Z Homes Joint Venture, calling itself "Profiteam," sponsored a three-day "Bootcamp" at the Holiday Inn and Suites Airport North in Phoenix, starting June 27, 2019, with the intention of recruiting drivers and door knockers from the list of attendees. The stated cost of attendance was \$97, which included a cocktail mixer on June 27 and lunch during the seminar days of June 28 and 29.
- 128. Among the marketing efforts for the Bootcamp was a flyer distributed online and targeted to potential attendees. The flyer promised multiple benefits to attendees, including "Learn how to buy houses without Real Estate knowledge or money;" "Meet Industry experts in Real Estate, Tech, Mindset and Sales;" "Hear from of [sic] our team members are making 6 figures or more a year, and all of whom had no prior experience in the real estate industry;" and "Learn the system that changed their life [sic]."

- 129. The Bootcamp flyer also contained brief biographical information about the four main presenters at the event, Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Berdine, and Campbell.
- 130. The biography for Defendant Cameron Jones on the Profiteam Bootcamp flyer stated, "CAMERON JONES is one of the top deal originators and trainers in real estate acquisition in the nation. Starting just four years ago has [sic] directly originated over 500 deals and created scores of six figure income earners without any prior experience." On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones had not directly originated over 500 real estate deals by June 2019. On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones has not been responsible for "scores" of people earning over \$100,000 per year in the real estate industry.
- 131. The false statements in the Bootcamp flyer biography of Defendant Cameron Jones came directly from Defendant Samuel Sutton. Defendant Samuel Sutton wrote these falsehoods in an effort to tone down the more egregious falsehoods in the original draft submitted by Defendant Cameron Jones. Defendant Campbell personally congratulated Defendant Samuel Sutton on writing statements for distribution to the ticket-buying public that Defendant Campbell knew to be false.
- 132. The original draft of the biography was transmitted by Defendant Cameron Jones to the joint venture partners using his primary email account, which he had reconfigured to appear as if the sender was named Don McCullagh. In that original draft, Defendant Cameron Jones wrote, "I started my journey in real estate at the age of 26, and currently have personally originated, & generated upwards of almost 1,000 closed deals. I am Entrepreneur that loves created other streams of income that are a Cash Cow. I am a co-founder in a software company that is a lead generator for producing direct to seller leads & is a co-founder in an Excess Proceeds Company. [...] Truly love serving other & help them changes their financial situation to better their overall life's. I have personal mentor all most a 100 people from of all ages of life helps produces results in Real Estate." [All errors as in original.]
 - 133. On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones did not personally originate

anywhere close to 1,000 closed deals during the first four years of his equity stripping scheme. On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones did not personally mentor anywhere near 100 people of all ages to become successful in real estate during the first four years of his equity stripping scheme, or ever.

- 134. On information and belief, Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Campbell, and Berdine circulated the flyer containing false accomplishments with the intention of misleading potential attendees about the odds of financial success in the equity stripping scheme, in order to recruit consumers into participating in their scheme for very little compensation. In a November 2018 profit and loss statement prepared for Defendant Samuel Sutton, the statement showed Defendant Samuel Sutton earning a gross profit of over \$1 million in the first 11 months of the year, while the amount paid to all drivers who worked with the A-Z Homes Joint Venture in that period was only \$19,086.
- \$397 but a limited time "early bird" discount brought the price to \$97. On information and belief, the defendants involved in producing this marketing email never intended to charge anyone \$397, and instead used the inflated price as a tool to make potential attendees believe they were receiving a bargain.
- 136. Several attendees at the June 2019 Bootcamp later contacted the A-Z Homes Joint Venture to discuss joining the equity stripping scheme. The joint venture partners described these recruiting discussions as "one-on-one strategy sessions."
- 137. After the drivers and door knockers were recruited, Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Campbell, and Berdine used the assistance of various law firms to create contractual documents that prohibited the recruits from using the knowledge they gained by working with the joint venture, unless the joint venture was given the opportunity to profit from it for a period of three years. For the individuals recruited as drivers, that meant they were either locked in by contract to produce profits for Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Campbell,

and Berdine for a period of three years, or else they could not engage in real estate transactions at all.

- did not comply with Arizona law, but the joint venture partners used them anyway, because they wanted the drivers to generate profits for them and they had no desire to train people who could soon become competitors. In numerous internal communications, Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, and Campbell, along with Partner C, made it clear that drivers were to be trained slowly so they could not start their own competing scheme, and that certain drivers were never to be given key information such as the identities of hard money lenders or training on how to find trustee sale notices on the county recorder web site.
- 139. These restrictions on what recruits would be taught and how they could use that information after ending their association with the A-Z Homes Joint Venture conflicted with the way Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Campbell, and Berdine presented their joint venture to the recruited drivers.
- 140. For example, Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton worked with outside counsel to develop a document called "Education Confidentiality, Noncircumvention Agreement & Right of First Refusal." This document was a contractual agreement included in the paperwork executed by new drivers and door knockers.
- 141. In this agreement, Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton defined Defendant A-Z Homes as a "School" and any individual who executed the agreement as a "Student." Under the terms of the agreement, signatory drivers granted the A-Z Homes Joint Venture the right of first refusal on all real estate transactions originated by the "students" for a period of three years in exchange for a waiver of "Tuition" normally charged by the "School."
- 142. The agreement stated that "the School normally charges a school tuition of \$20,000" in order to deceive potential drivers and door knockers into believing they were receiving a valuable education in exchange for their uncompensated labor. On information and belief,

Defendant A-Z Homes LLC never imposed a \$20,000 tuition charge on anyone, much less enough people to consider the tuition charge normal. On information and belief, no person has ever paid \$20,000 to learn anything from Defendant Cameron Jones and/or Defendant Samuel Sutton.

A-Z Homes Joint Venture Fraudulent Training

- 143. Both before and after the 2019 Profiteam Bootcamp, Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Campbell, and Berdine, along with Partner C, trained the group of drivers, door knockers, and coaches in techniques to defraud homeowners into signing purchase agreements or other documents giving the joint venture control over their homes. Recipients of this training include Defendants Sal Huesca, Evelyn Huesca, Jennifer Herbst, and Daniel Carrillo.
- 144. The training consisted of mandatory video presentations, written materials, and weekly "coaching" conference calls where the scheme leaders and the drivers themselves exchanged tips on how to trick homeowners into engaging in conversation and signing a purchase agreement.
- 145. Some of the conference call trainings included lessons in "rebuttals" to say to distressed homeowners when those homeowners said that they wanted to pursue other options, such as talking to a real estate broker, consulting with a lawyer, or working out a repayment arrangement with the foreclosing lender. Those rebuttals included advising homeowners who wanted a second opinion from a licensed real estate broker to speak with Partner C, who would give the homeowners advice and then trick those homeowners into waiving any claims regarding the obvious conflict of interest. Those rebuttals also included advising homeowners who wanted to consult with a lawyer to speak with Defendant Moore, without disclosing the conflict of interest. Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Campbell, and Moore all knew or should have known that such advice given to homeowners would be a conflict of interest barred by the regulations governing licensed real estate brokers and attorneys, respectively.
- 146. The A-Z Homes Joint Venture also prepared numerous written training materials for drivers and door knockers. Some of these materials were distributed by email as attachments,

and some were web-based online training modules that could be accompanied by video.

- 147. In one training video, Defendant Cameron Jones showed new drivers and door knockers how to use the online training system. During the video, Defendant Cameron Jones appears in the lower left corner as a talking head, while the main screen displayed Module 9 of the online training software, titled "Door Knocking Script."
- 148. A portion of the Module 9 script read: "just so you know, what I mainly do is help people by guiding them through he foreclosure process and offer myself as a resource to you. About 20% of the time, with our we help people keep their home, and about 80% of the time, keeping the home is not a feasible option so we can buy the home for cash and give you some time and assistance to move on from a difficult situation." [All errors in original.]
- 149. This door knocking script was false. Neither Defendant A-Z Homes nor any other defendant ever helped a homeowner keep their home. To the contrary, many homeowners ended up fighting with the defendants in court for the ability to keep their home. Any homeowners who managed to keep their homes did so in spite of, or in opposition to, the defendants. All defendants related to the A-Z Homes Joint Venture knew the claim about helping 20% of homeowners save their homes was false.
- 150. The A-Z Homes Joint Venture also produced a document called "Door Knockers Guide to Success" that was distributed to new drivers and door knockers. The document went through several versions, with version 3 produced in February 2018.
- 151. The Door Knockers Guide to Success contains a section titled "The Art of The Handwritten Note" that trained drivers and door knockers how to leave handwritten notes that would convince homeowners to contact them. One sample instructed trainees to leave notes saying, "I am working with your lender." This statement was false. All defendants associated with the A-Z Homes Joint Venture knew it was false, because it was impossible to work with a lender until the lender received written permission from the homeowner to share sensitive financial data with the scammers.

- 152. Another training document used by the A-Z Homes Joint Venture was titled "Quick Cash Ways." That document similarly instructed drivers and door knockers to say, "I am working with your lender." The Quick Cash Ways document also encouraged drivers and door knockers to make other false statements in handwritten notes, such as, "I am your neighbor & was just swing by regarding your home." [All errors in original.] These statements were false, and all defendants associated with the A-Z Homes Joint Venture knew they were false.
- 153. The Quick Cash Ways document also trained drivers and door knockers on the special category of leads called "Last Minute Deals" which covered homeowners whose homes were due to be sold at a trustee auction within days. This section instructed drivers and door knockers to "stress the point of urgency to get to the point to make the decision on moving forward with your service you are providing by buying there home. For Example: Money in your hand, instead of no money & the bank foreclosing on the home." [All errors in original.] The statement about "no money" used to pressure homeowners was false, and all defendants associated with the A-Z Homes Joint Venture knew it was false.
- 154. The Quick Cash Ways document went on to note another option for interacting with homeowners identified as Last Minute Deals: "Depending on when the contract is signed with the seller, a Bankruptcy is a automatic way to stop the foreclosure. You must be a knowledge able on this so you can utilize this as additional Tool in your back pocket, instead of fully disclosing to them about the bankruptcy. Be strategic on this option in more details to the seller if you don't have a signed contract. If possible, this should be brought up after you get the property under contract. Be open if the seller mentions this to you before you have them king the contract. (then you want to be knowledge about this process & stress the picture that you will be able to fill it out on there behalf without any cost to the seller." [All errors in original.]
- 155. On information and belief, this section of the training document meant that drivers should be aware that they can stop a trustee sale by filling out bankruptcy petitions for homeowners at no additional cost to the homeowner, but the drivers and door knockers should get

a signed purchase agreement before telling the homeowners that bankruptcy could stop the trustee auction without the need to sell the property to the A-Z Homes Joint Venture. It also instructed drivers and door knockers to tell homeowners that the A-Z Homes Joint Venture would fill out all necessary bankruptcy paperwork on behalf of the homeowners, as well as pay for the bankruptcy filing.

- 156. The A-Z Homes Joint Venture also conducted ongoing weekly "mindset" training with Defendant Campbell for all levels of the organization, including principals. These mindset sessions included weekly group meetings and regular one-on-one meetings with Defendant Campbell, who would exhort participants to fantasize lavishly about extreme wealth.
- 157. This "mindset" training was used by the principals of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture to encourage drivers and door knockers to work even longer hours despite most of them receiving compensation that was a tiny fraction of the amount going to Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton.
- 158. Defendant Cameron Jones and Partner C would also participate in the mindset trainings. As part of one exercise, Defendant Cameron Jones made a list of his goals that included "Net Income \$100 million;" "Net Wealth \$500 million;" "\$500 million Net Income Software Company;" "Have a portifilo [sic] of Blockchain/CyproCurrentcy [sic] of Liquid \$10 Billion;" and "Speech at Harvard University about money."
- 159. The principals of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture also developed a so-called "Sticker Campaign" and trained drivers and door knockers on the use of the Sticker Campaign tools.
- 160. The Sticker Campaign involved the creation of a document template that could be printed on blank adhesive labels. The template was designed to look like the stickers commonly left at residences by major delivery companies to indicate that a package delivery had been attempted but could not be completed.
- 161. The drivers and door knockers were trained to add specific file codes and phone numbers to the stickers. The homeowners who received a sticker would in turn call the telephone

number and give the file number written on the sticker. The operator would tell the homeowner that the service was trying to deliver important legal documents, and requested a time window that someone would be home to sign for receipt of the legal documents.

- 162. Unaware that the delivery service was fraudulent, the homeowners would agree to meet a delivery person. In fact, the A-Z Homes Joint Venture would send someone affiliated with the joint venture to "deliver" the documents, which were documents intended to be used in the equity stripping scheme.
- 163. The fraudulent techniques taught and deployed by the members of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture led to multiple lawsuits by homeowners alleging various forms of fraud and financial exploitation of vulnerable adults.

Collapse of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture

- 164. Using fraudulent techniques to recruit low-level workers and deceive distressed homeowners, Defendant Cameron Jones, Defendant Samuel Sutton, and Partner C engaged in dozens of real estate transactions involving property worth millions of dollars under the banner of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture. The partnership did not last.
- Partner C and his alter ego entity, Defendant Invest in AZ, from its 33% membership position in Defendant A-Z Homes. The allegations leading to this termination included failure to pay joint expenses, involvement in multiple transactions leading to lawsuits and investigations by the Arizona Attorney General, substance abuse, sexual misconduct, and defamation. Defendant Invest in AZ, through the actions of Partner C, later teamed up with Defendant Cameron Jones to continue their ongoing fraud scheme.
- 166. Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton each became 50% members of Defendant A-Z Homes after the expulsion of Partner C. On information and belief, the purported meeting to expel Partner C occurred in September 2018, but the paperwork formalizing the change to Defendant A-Z Homes was not executed and filed until April 2019.

- 167. Tensions continued to rise between Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton, with Defendant Campbell frequently acting as an intermediary between the other two. Defendant Samuel Sutton felt that Defendant Cameron Jones had an out-of-control ego that made working together difficult. Defendant Samuel Sutton also believed that Defendant Cameron Jones had behavioral issues arising from a violent assault that occurred in Old Town Scottsdale in September 2019, leading to the hospitalization of Defendant Cameron Jones. Defendant Samuel Sutton characterized these behavioral issues as "chasing women, drinking, drugs."
- 168. By January 6, 2020, Defendant Samuel Sutton was angry enough with Defendant Cameron Jones that he texted Defendant Campbell, "Heading to bed waking up super early," followed by, "Hopefully I don't murder Cameron in my sleep," followed by a laughing emoji.
- 169. On the afternoon of February 5, 2020, Defendant Samuel Sutton texted Defendant Campbell, "Cameron is very high right now," followed by, "I'm not sure what to do."
- 170. Shortly before midnight on February 5, 2020, Defendant Cameron Jones crashed his car in a single-vehicle rollover incident on Interstate 10. Defendant Cameron Jones would later describe this incident in a social media post as "rolling my BMW M4 4+ times from witness on the scene going about 90 mph on the I-10 freeway."
- 171. Law enforcement responding to the incident wrote a report indicating they found a large amount of cash (some of which had blown onto the highway during the crash) and a container holding 150 Xanax pills (for which Defendant Cameron Jones had no prescription). Within hours after the crash, Defendant Cameron Jones was arrested for possession of prescription-only drugs for sale, threatening and intimidating, aggravated assault, and resisting arrest.
- 172. Early in the morning of February 6, 2020, Defendant Dorothy Jones texted Defendant Samuel Sutton saying, "Cameron was in a really bad car accident and is now in jail."
- 173. On or about February 17, 2020, Defendant Cameron Jones met with Defendant Samuel Sutton and Defendant Campbell to discuss the end of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture.

174. On or about March 2, 2020, Defendant Samuel Sutton sent an email to Defendant Cameron Jones outlining the terms for the split between the business partners. In that email, Defendant Samuel Sutton stated, "The day of you [sic] incarceration, I took steps to protect the company by deeding all assets and moving the companies [sic] liquid assets. Properties were deeded to an entity I control soley [sic]. That's Arizona Houses, LLC."

- 175. On February 6, 2020, the day Defendant Cameron Jones was incarcerated, Defendant Arizona Houses, LLC recorded four separate warranty deeds transferring property owned by Defendant A-Z Homes to Defendant Arizona Houses.
- 176. Over the next several months, Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton exchanged communications regarding an ongoing dispute over the amount of money and property owed to Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 177. On information and belief, Defendant Moore participated in these communications acting solely on behalf of Defendant Samuel Sutton and adversely to Defendant Cameron Jones. On information and belief, Defendant Moore did not receive informed consent confirmed in writing from Defendant Cameron Jones, who was at the time either a current or former client of Defendant Moore.
- 178. After the separation was complete, Defendant Samuel Sutton, Defendant Ajoy Augustine, and Defendant Moore continued engaging in an equity stripping scheme through Defendants Magnum Financial and Arizona Houses. For example, in May 2023, homeowners in Surprise, Arizona accused Defendant Arizona Houses of fraudulently inducing signatures on incomplete documents and violating the Consumer Fraud Act—the same kind of fraud that made Defendant Samuel Sutton very wealthy over the years.

Gazelle Investors and Arizona's Helping Hands

179. After the end of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture, Defendants Sal Huesca, Daniel Carrillo, and Dorothy Jones and their related Alter Ego Entities continued working with Defendant Cameron Jones and his Alter Ego Entities to secure profits by defrauding distressed homeowners.

- 180. As part of the ongoing Gazelle Investors equity stripping scheme, Defendants Sal Huesca and Daniel Carrillo, along with Defendant Cameron Jones and Partner C, continued to engage in the same fraudulent behavior they had developed and trained on as part of the A-Z Homes Joint Venture. Defendants Cameron Jones and Sal Huesca also trained Defendant Mitchell Mendez in these fraudulent techniques.
- 181. From December 2020 through December 2024, the Cameron Jones Alter Ego Entities entered into more than 100 contracts to purchase residential real estate. These contracts, secured with the assistance of Defendants Sal Huesca, Daniel Carrillo, Mitchell Mendez, and Invest in AZ (through Partner C) led to numerous lawsuits, legal demand letters, and even multiple investigations by Adult Protective Services for financial exploitation of vulnerable adults.
- 182. One transaction involved a contract to purchase a home located at 2402 West Adams Street in Phoenix (the "Adams Street property"). The purchase contract between the seller and Defendant Gazelle Investors was executed on December 29, 2020. Defendant American Title served as escrow agent for the transaction.
- 183. On January 11, 2021 a representative of Defendant American Title emailed Defendant Cameron Jones to inform him that the seller wished to cancel and refused to provide documents needed to close the transaction, so Defendant American Title was closing the escrow file.
- 184. Defendant Cameron Jones responded to that email a few hours later on the same day: "The contract can't be cancel. Please read the contract. It's specifically terms. You can't just cancel a contract with a mutual agreement escpecisllay with the langauage that boldly was communicted in front of him & 3 other people that the seller cannot cancel however the buyer can in the act of god. If you cancel, this is a law suit & certainly you will lose. Read the contract." [All errors in original.] On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones was threatening to sue Defendant American Title because his purchase agreement form only allowed Defendant Gazelle Investors to cancel, whereas the homeowner could not.

185. After receiving this threat from Defendant Cameron Jones, Defendant American Title proceeded with the transaction. Approximately five hours after receiving the threat, Defendant American Title emailed Defendant Cameron Jones with a list of additional information needed from the seller. Defendant American Title did not attempt to obtain this information directly from the seller because Defendant Cameron Jones ordered them not to contact the seller, and Defendant American Title obeyed in order to protect their lucrative relationship with Defendant Cameron Jones.

Defendant American Title, discussing the escrow and saying the seller "can't cancel in language no matter what, we 100% to control of the property will legal the property away if need. Record a Affidavit Memorandum of contract.1 for the next 24 month Which in 30 days this problem will be legal resolved since he has no Mooney for a attorney. Unless he will ageee & be realistic respect for us helping." [All errors in original.] On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones was telling Defendant American Title that he intended to engage Defendant Fowler St. Clair to file a lawsuit against the seller of the Adams Street property, and that he expected to quickly secure a default judgment because the seller did not have money to hire an attorney and fight the lawsuit.

- 187. Defendant Cameron Jones engaged Defendant Fowler St. Clair to file a lawsuit against the seller of the Adams Street property, quickly securing a default judgment because the seller did not have money to hire an attorney and fight the lawsuit.
- 188. On January 13, 2021 an affidavit regarding the purchase agreement for the Adams Street property was recorded with the Maricopa County Recorder, just as Defendant Cameron Jones instructed Defendant American Title to do in his January 11 email.
- 189. After Defendant Fowler St. Clair secured the default judgment, Defendant American Title completed the transaction, removing ownership of the property from the homeowner who tried to cancel.

- 190. Having secured title to the Adams Street property, Defendant Cameron Jones tried to sell it to a new owner. Defendant American Title acted as the escrow agent for the transaction.
- American Title exchanged emails about the purchase agreement to sell the Adams Street property to a purported real estate investor. In the email, Defendant Cameron Jones tells escrow agent Gayla Thompson that the buyer "isn't a normal Investor, fyi. First time buyer, so we must trend carefully, you know what I mean." [All errors in original.] On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones was informing Defendant American Title that the buyer for the Adams Street property had little experience in real estate and therefore both Cameron Jones and American Title needed to be careful in their dealings with this consumer.
- 192. On the afternoon of November 1, 2022, Defendant Cameron Jones notified Defendant American Title that the parties had agreed to cancel the transaction, and that the non-refundable earnest money deposit of \$5,000 should be transferred immediately to Defendant Cameron Jones. Defendant Cameron Jones took \$5,000 from an inexperienced investor based on a contract that was cancelled approximately 10 hours after execution. Defendant American Title went along with all of this, and continued working for Defendant Cameron Jones as part of his racketeering enterprise for nearly another year.
- 193. Later that same month, in November 2022, Defendant Cameron Jones filed articles of organization to create Defendant Arizona's Helping Hands. Although the name of this company sounds like a charitable organization, it was not established as a nonprofit charity. To the contrary, Defendant Arizona's Helping Hands was an empty shell company created by Defendant Cameron Jones for the sole purpose of misleading distressed homeowners into believing they were dealing with a charity, as opposed to using the name of Defendant Gazelle Investors, which could lead some homeowners to guess the truth about the intentions of Defendant Cameron Jones.
 - 194. Defendant Cameron Jones created scripts, text templates, flyers, and business cards

using the Arizona's Helping Hands name to confuse distressed homeowners and deceive them into selling their homes. Defendant Cameron Jones texted one such script to Defendant Sal Huesca in February 2023: "Hi (first name) My name is Daniel from Arizona's Helping Hands. You may be aware already, but your lender has hired an attorney to start the foreclosure proceedings. We specialize in preventing foreclosure's. Are you available for a Strategy Call to discuss options and help you prevent the foreclosure? Do you have a few moments for a call right now or maybe a little later? Much Gratitude, Sal Huesca." [All errors in original.]

- 195. Defendant Sal Huesca texted with a distressed homeowner introducing himself as "Sal with Arizona's Helping Hands LLC" and claiming "our company helps people save homes from pre-foreclosure" before later saying "Our company also buys houses." This messaging was intended to make distressed homeowners believe that Defendant Cameron Jones and his associates would help save the home or would buy the home, when in fact they would only buy the home and would do nothing to help the homeowner save the home.
- 196. In February 2023 Defendant Cameron Jones used business cards stating that he was from "Arizona Helping Hands, LLC." [Error in original.] The business card characterizes Defendant Cameron Jones as a "Hardship Specialist" and a "Senior Partner" in Defendant Arizona's Helping Hands. On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones was responsible for the creation of this business card, notwithstanding the fact that the company's name was misspelled on the card.
- 197. The front of the card read, "Any Situation, We can Solve it! Your one Call Away!" [All errors in original.] The back of the card read, "Having a issue with your Mortgage Company, Rental, and or property, We Can Solve it. Residential / Commercial / Land / Manufactured Homes Call or Text To Schedule A Free, No Obligation Plan Regarding your Property!" [All errors in original.] The card does not give consumers the truthful information that Arizona's Helping Hands was an empty shell company fronting for Defendant Gazelle Investors, and that the one and only objective of Defendant Cameron Jones was acquiring real estate far below fair market

value.

name is Daniel Carillo. I am coming by to speak with you because your lender has hired an Attorney to start the foreclosure proceedings to auction off your home. Our Firm, Arizona's Helping Hands specialize in foreclosure prevention assisting homeowners in avoiding their home from being foreclosed on by the Mortgage Company. We are here to provide a helping hand to this situation & are just a call or text away from setting up a free Strategy call. We empower you for Success!!!" [All errors in original.] The flyer was signed: "Daniel Carillo, Hardship Specialist, Arizona's Helping Hands LLC" and noted that he speaks Spanish. [All errors in original.] Nothing in the flyer indicated to homeowners that the sole purpose of the contact was to purchase the home.

Another flyer created for use by Defendant Daniel Carrillo said, in part: "Hello, My

Jones. One indication is the use of random capitalization, a stylistic choice frequently found in documents known to have been written by Defendant Cameron Jones. Another indication is the use of the phrase "Strategy call," which is a term Defendant Cameron Jones uses as a fraudulent euphemism for a "buy appointment" to purchase a property. Another indication is that Defendant Daniel Carrillo's name is spelled incorrectly both times that it appears in the flyer. On information and belief, Defendant Daniel Carrillo knows how to spell his own name and spells it correctly on documents he creates himself.

- 200. Indeed, Defendant Daniel Carrillo did spell his name correctly in a flyer he created for his own use. In that flyer, Defendant Carrillo claims to represent a company called Arizona Land & Property Solutions LLC, a company name Defendant Carrillo used repeatedly when contacting distressed homeowners. That association was false, as no company called "Arizona Land & Property Solutions LLC" ever existed.
- 201. On certain occasions Defendant Carrillo would not bother with giving the name of a fraudulent and/or fake entity and simply deceive the distressed homeowners directly. In a text

message sent to a distressed homeowner on May 9, 2023, Defendant Carrillo wrote: "My name is Daniel, I work with a company that helps people beat the bank and save homes." The text message did not say that Defendant Carrillo intended to take the home by purchasing it for far less than the fair market value.

- 202. In a text thread dated June 1, 2023, Defendant Daniel Carrillo contacted a homeowner "in regards to an urgent matter." The homeowner responded with "What urgent matter" and "My house will not be for sale." Defendant Carrillo responded, "Understood . . . If it's worth it for you, we could discuss some options to save your home, that does not involve selling."
- 203. Defendant Sal Huesca and Defendant Cameron Jones even tried to create another limited liability company called "Arizona's Helping Hands Foundation LLC" to further expand the fraudulent scheme, but failed to do so at least in part because of a glitch in the website for the Arizona Secretary of State.
- 204. In July 2024, Defendant Mitchell Mendez texted Defendant Sal Huesca regarding a potential seller. Defendant Mendez described the contact person by saying he "knows we are buying it to turn a profit, he's not naïve." He followed that statement with a sad crying emoji, followed by a winking emoji. On information and belief, Defendant Mendez was making light of the fact that most of the homeowners he encounters do not understand that Defendants are running an equity stripping scheme, and therefore he feels sad when he encounters a homeowner who is not fooled by the scheme.

Exploitation of Vulnerable Adults

- 205. Both the A-Z Homes Joint Venture and the continuing fraud schemes after the end of the joint venture engaged in exploitation of homeowners who were vulnerable for reasons varying from drug addiction to dementia.
- 206. In 2016, Defendant Magnum Financial was sued by a homeowner who the joint venture convinced to sign a purchase agreement, and who was shortly thereafter found to be

incompetent to execute contracts due to dementia.

- 207. In December 2022, Defendant Sal Huesca contacted a woman who owned a property on Jerome Avenue in Mesa. He then texted Defendant Cameron Jones to say that the property had two owners but one of the owners was nowhere to be found. Defendant Cameron Jones responded, "Just write it up & we figure that other piece out" and "Get a mortgage statement." Defendant Cameron Jones knew that the person signing the purchase agreement did not have the unilateral authority to sell the property, but he ordered Defendant Sal Huesca to proceed anyway.
- 208. Defendant Sal Huesca replied to these two texts saying, "OK let me try she is hard of hearing." Defendant Cameron Jones replied, "That should make it easier, Just tell her your [sic] able to help her." Defendant Cameron Jones knew that the homeowner suffered from a physical limitation that made effective communication difficult, and he considered this to be good news because it would be easier to take the property from the homeowner.
- 209. Defendants Cameron Jones and Sal Huesca eventually convinced that homeowner to sign a purchase agreement, and after taking control of the property they eventually flipped it for a price almost four times higher than the price they paid to the homeowner.
- 210. In another transaction, Defendant Cameron Jones entered into a contract with a distressed homeowner on North 68th Lane in Peoria who was confined to a wheelchair due to an amputation, whose home exhibited extreme disorganization and disrepair, and who in fact had given his brother power of attorney ten years earlier because he was not competent to handle his own financial affairs.
- 211. Defendant Cameron Jones ignored these warning signs and secured a purchase agreement with the homeowner, including a "leaseback" agreement that was meaningless because it was so vague. On information and belief, the lease agreement was vague because Defendant Cameron Jones intended to the vague terms as a weapon to evict the vulnerable homeowner as soon as possible.

- 212. On the same day the vulnerable homeowner signed the purchase agreement with Defendant Cameron Jones, the homeowner also signed a handwritten addendum that gave Defendant Cameron Jones and his minions the unlimited right to enter the property without permission, as if Defendant Cameron Jones already owned the home.
- 213. Defendant Cameron Jones recorded an affidavit memorializing the transaction, but attached a purchase agreement to the affidavit that was entirely blank except for the signature page. Defendant Cameron Jones recorded this purchase agreement with an incorrect name for the seller, in order to make it impossible for anyone searching the recorder database to link the purchase agreement to the name of the vulnerable homeowner.
- 214. Defendant Cameron Jones contacted the homeowner's mortgage lender and pretended to be the homeowner, asking the lender to send information to the homeowner using the email address for Defendant Gazelle Investors.
- 215. Only when confronted by the homeowner's brother, who held a valid power of attorney for the vulnerable homeowner, did Defendant Cameron Jones release his hold on the vulnerable adult's property. Defendant Cameron Jones recorded the release of the affidavit, but once again recorded it incorrectly to make it impossible to find a connection between the homeowner and Defendant Cameron Jones by searching the recorder database. On information and belief, Defendant Cameron Jones did this to conceal his actions from investigators at Adult Protective Services.
- 216. Defendant Daniel Carrillo secretly recorded a buy appointment where he and Partner C met with a woman who had no authority to sell the home without the participation and consent of her husband, who was incarcerated at the time for selling methamphetamine.
- 217. When that homeowner left the room to find some financial paperwork, Defendant Carrillo and Partner C whispered to each other that the homeowner was "high as shit," that the home smelled like methamphetamine, and that they should hurry and secure her signature on the purchase agreement.

218. Defendant Carrillo and Partner C sat in the presence of the homeowner and watched her forge her husband's signature on the purchase documents, which they later presented for use in the transaction knowing they contained false information.

Bankruptcy Fraud

- 219. Both during the A-Z Homes Joint Venture and afterwards, a key part of the fraud scheme was filing fraudulent bankruptcy petitions in order to stop trustee auctions with an automatic stay, and use that extra time to secure control of the property before it could be auctioned. The most common way of doing this was to intentionally file deficient forms, so the bankruptcy court would quickly dismiss the bankruptcy for failure to provide adequate documentation.
- 220. The defendants would also file a document requesting to pay the bankruptcy filing fee in installments, so they would gain the benefits of the automatic stay while only paying a small portion of the filing fee.
- 221. Often these fraudulent bankruptcy filings were made without the knowledge or consent of the homeowner on whose behalf the petitions were prepared and filed.
- 222. In one instance detailed in a lawsuit against the A-Z Homes Joint Venture, a homeowner alleged that she had no role in preparing the bankruptcy petition, as demonstrated by the fact that her name was spelled incorrectly on the petition, which led the bankruptcy court to docket the case using the misspelled name. On information and belief, the homeowner knew how to spell her own name and would have spelled it correctly if she had prepared the bankruptcy petition herself.
- 223. Defendant Evelyn Huesca and Defendant Cameron Jones were personally involved with the fraudulent bankruptcy petition filed on behalf of that homeowner.
- 224. Defendant Evelyn Huesca later sent an email to the homeowner to bully her about the transaction and threaten her with worse financial consequences if she did not comply with the demands of Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton to vacate the home without further

- 225. On information and belief, Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton eventually paid \$12,000 and other consideration to settle the lawsuit filed by the homeowner.
- 226. Defendant Moore became involved in that lawsuit, purportedly representing various defendants, and filed a motion to dismiss in which he knowingly made false statements of fact to the court. This included claiming Defendant Evelyn Huesca was an employee of Defendant Gazelle Investors, even though Defendant Moore knew the A-Z Homes Joint Venture intentionally made all drivers and door knockers independent contractors to avoid complying with laws protecting employees.
- 227. In December 2018, Defendant Moore appeared in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona representing, among others, Defendants Samuel Sutton, Cameron Jones, and A-Z Homes. Judge Daniel P. Collins had ordered the parties to appear because he believed one of the drivers working for the joint venture had fraudulently prepared and filed a bankruptcy petition.
- 228. At the hearing, Defendant Moore admitted that Defendant A-Z Homes had violated federal bankruptcy law.
- 229. Judge Collins issued an order stating "Sam Sutton, Cameron Jones, and AZ Homes, LLC, and all its employees, agents and contractors, are barred from preparing, directly or indirectly, documents for filing in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona." Although Defendant A-Z Homes did not last much longer after the order, on information and belief Defendants Samuel Sutton and Cameron Jones have caused additional fraudulent documents to be filed with the District of Arizona bankruptcy court.
- 230. On February 24, 2020, Judge Eduardo V. Rodriguez of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas entered an order similar to the order entered in Arizona by Judge Collins. That day, Judge Rodriguez held a hearing because Defendant Cameron Jones had caused a Texas homeowner to file a fraudulent bankruptcy petition by lying

to the homeowner about the effect of the petition.

- 231. At the hearing, Judge Rodriguez prepared a written order in which he said it was "painstakingly clear to this Court that Cameron Jones' behavior, at a minimum, rises to the level of the unauthorized practice of law. The Court is of the opinion that coercive sanctions and injunctive relief should be issued against Cameron Jones and the matter referred to the State Bar of Texas regarding Mr. Jones' behavior."
- 232. Judge Rodriguez ordered Defendant Cameron Jones to pay more than \$2,000 to compensate the homeowner and United States Trustee for the time wasted by the fraudulent bankruptcy filing. He also prohibited Defendant Cameron Jones from "further assisting any Debtor or filing any bankruptcy pleadings in any Court within the Houston, McAllen and Brownsville Divisions before Judge Eduardo V. Rodriguez."
- 233. Even multiple orders from bankruptcy courts enjoining the unauthorized practice of law has not stopped Defendants Samuel Sutton, Cameron Jones, or their agents from continuing to abuse the bankruptcy courts to forestall trustee auctions and secure properties for themselves.

Probate Court Fraud

- 234. Another frequent ploy for the fraud scheme was filing fraudulent documents with the probate court in order to clear the property for sale to the defendants. The defendants would gather documents from sellers and use them to prepare various filings for probate court, generally without any further input from the relatives of the deceased homeowners.
- 235. One incident involved a property located on Jacinto Avenue in Mesa, where the homeowner had passed away and the A-Z Homes Joint Venture was trying to convince the heir to sell them the property below fair market value. They accomplished this by preparing and filing bankruptcy forms for the heir.
- 236. On July 20, 2018, Defendant Jennifer Herbst sent an email to Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton noting that they could not close escrow on the Jacinto Avenue property because Defendant Cameron Jones was "waiting on update on how to proceed with probate since

it was rejected."

- 237. Probate court forms were later prepared by a certified document preparer, but Defendant Moore stepped in to represent the heir who was applying to the court to act as personal representative for the estate. On one document, Defendant Moore used a pen to cross out the name and license number of the document preparer, and wrote in his own contact information by hand.
- 238. Defendant Moore never notified the probate court that he was simultaneously representing both the homeowner's heir and an adverse party seeking to purchase real property owned by the estate. On information and belief, Defendant Moore never secured written consent to represent both parties despite the ethical conflict of interest.
- 239. On information and belief, Defendant Moore abandoned his representation of the heir in that matter, leading the probate court to close the case after two years of inaction. Defendant Moore did not assist his "client" with fulfilling the duties of a personal representative to bring the probate matter to an orderly close. After the paperwork cleared the way for the sale to close, Defendant Moore had finished his task for his actual client (Defendant Samuel Sutton) and simply cut loose the "client" he told the court he represented.
- 240. On information and belief, Defendant Moore could not have terminated the attorney-client relationship with the heir for lack of payment, because Defendants Samuel Sutton and/or Cameron Jones were paying Defendant Moore's fees.
- 241. Defendant Samuel Sutton continued to engage in fraudulent probate filings or cause persons working on his behalf to do so. In December 2022, Defendant Samuel Sutton executed a purchase agreement with an addendum stating, "Buyer to pay probate costs, seller agrees to give all information to buyer to file for probate. Seller agrees to sign documents regarding probate and in an event the seller backs out from the contract then the seller will pay back all money spent on probate to the buyer." This was typical of the process used by Defendant Samuel Sutton for probate matters: homeowners are required to provide sensitive personal information and sign

whatever probate documents are placed in front of them, but control over the entire process belongs to Defendant Samuel Sutton, who handles everything else.

- 242. Another example of total control exercised by Defendant Samuel Sutton comes from a letter submitted to the probate court in March 2024. In that letter, the person named personal representative of their parent's estate through the efforts of Defendant Arizona Houses complained that nobody would update him on the status of the probate case or provide him with paperwork. The letter further alleged that the personal representative was told to sign documents and add the letters "PR" after the signature to indicate "probate," when in fact the seller was signing as personal representative and did not understand the nature of the documents.
- 243. Defendant Fowler St. Clair engaged in a similar conflict of interest representation in a probate matter without telling the probate court the truth about the representation.
- 244. Attorney Dustin Schanaker of Fowler St. Clair represented the daughter of the deceased owner of a home on Edgemont Avenue in probate court. This was the same probate matter where Defendant Cameron Jones had caused the filing of a fraudulent pleading declaring another heir to be dead, when in fact the supposedly dead heir had filed a competing probate matter days earlier.
- 245. Defendant Fowler St. Clair appeared on behalf of the daughter, who challenged another family member for the right to act as personal representative. At all times during the purported representation, Defendant Cameron Jones (and/or his Alter Ego Entities) paid any amounts due to Defendant Fowler St. Clair as a result of the representation.
- 246. After Defendant Fowler St. Clair appeared in that probate matter, the court appointed the firm's client to be "Co-Administrator" along with another family member, for the sole purpose of selling the property. Defendant Cameron Jones bought that property through one of his entities. In other words, Defendant Fowler St. Clair represented both the buyer and the seller in a transaction requiring court approval, without ever informing the court that they were secretly being paid by the buyer and solely representing the buyer's interests.

247. In April 2023, Defendant Cameron Jones and Partner C secretly recorded a meeting in which they convinced an heir to the deceased homeowner of a property on South 99th Drive to allow him to take care of the probate matter at no cost to the heir. Although he is not a licensed attorney, at that time Defendant Cameron Jones knew that probate law requires persons applying to act as personal representative disclose to the probate court all other heirs eligible to serve as personal representative.

248. Despite this, Defendant Cameron Jones told people signing the documents, "One thing I was going to mention is, I would keep this away from your family, like especially on the environment that I'm hearing it is. It's probably not in their best interest for you to tell, it's not in their interest From my experience, once they hear that [heir] is going to make some money on the estate for the family, they're going to be like 'oh, well how can we get a piece possibly,' right? So I would just be very cautious on what you say, if you say anything. In fact, they really don't need to know anything until I close, preferably. So, like, let me close and help you through this because they might try to give their two cents that may not benefit anyone."

Title Company Involvement

- 249. The equity stripping scheme would not have been possible without the knowing involvement of the title companies who performed escrow duties and obtained title insurance policies for the transactions.
- 250. When acting as escrow agents, title company employees owe a fiduciary duty to the parties on both sides of a transaction.
- 251. Despite owing a fiduciary duty to both the homeowner and the buyer in the transactions, Defendants American Title and Magnus Title instead acted to protect defendants named in this action to the detriment of the homeowners. The defendants did this because equity stripping scammers generate a significant portion of their revenue.
- 252. Defendant American Title had actual knowledge of a broad variety of accusations made against Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton, along with their agents who acted

- 3 4 5 6
- 7 8

2

- 9 10
- 11
- 12 13
- 14
- 15
- 16 17
- 18

19

- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24 25

26

on their behalf. Yet American Title continued to transact business with Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton.

- 253. Gayla Thompson, an employee of Defendant American Title, worked with Defendant Cameron Jones for a period of at least seven years, both during and after the A-Z Homes Joint Venture period. Ms. Thompson believed that Defendant Cameron Jones did not meet the ethical standards required of licensed real estate brokers, but American Title continued doing business with him anyway.
- 254. Defendant American Title was aware of numerous calls from angry homeowners complaining that they had been forced to move out of their homes by Defendant Cameron Jones. Defendant American Title nevertheless continued to accept lucrative business opportunities from Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 255. Defendant American Title justified their engagement in some questionable transactions on the grounds that a court had ordered the sale of the property. Defendant American Title did this even though they were well aware that Defendant Gazelle Investors primarily secured default judgments because the distressed homeowners often could not afford attorneys to fight the lawsuits.
- 256. Defendant American Title was fully aware that securing default judgments against distressed homeowners was a business strategy for Defendant Cameron Jones, because Defendant Cameron Jones explicitly stated this to Gayla Thompson.
- 257. Defendant Magnus Title also knew that Defendant Cameron Jones engaged in illegal business practices, but largely turned a blind eye in order to protect their revenue stream. In one instance, Defendant American Title refused to close a transaction because the homeowner's ex-spouse refused to sign documents authorizing the sale. Defendant Cameron Jones turned to Defendant Magnus Title to complete the transaction, because their standards for closing transactions were even lower than those of Defendant American Title. Defendant Magnus Title agreed to complete the transaction without securing the permission of the ex-spouse.

- 258. Even the employees of Defendant Magnus Title understood that the company was facilitating improper transactions for Defendant Cameron Jones. For example, in September 2023 escrow assistant Riley Grabner emailed Defendant Cameron Jones regarding the Edgemont Avenue property, which had been sold during the fraudulent probate handled by Defendant Fowler St. Clair.
- 259. In the email Grabner noted that the purchase agreement originally recorded by Defendant Cameron Jones was invalid (because it was signed by someone with no authority to sell the property) and therefore Defendant Cameron Jones needed to record a statement releasing the invalid purchase agreement before the Edgemont property could be sold to a new buyer. Defendant Cameron Jones responded that he would record a release of the invalid contract, but not until the transaction closed, in order to maintain leverage through the cloud on the title created by his invalid purchase agreement.
- 260. Grabner forwarded the exchange to branch manager Shawni Butler and asked, "Do you want to hash it out with him since he is investor who uses Magnus? Or am I ok to request docs he claims to have giving them interest in property and telling him agreement signed is not valid [because] signors didn't have authority?" Butler replied noting the transaction was set to close in just a few days anyway, and told Grabner to send a release for Defendant Cameron Jones to sign and notarize.
- 261. Grabner responded and opined that it was "crazy" that "investors can take an agreement that is not valid, not do the due diligence of confirming said person has authority to sign said agreement, record said agreement against property and get paid to release it."
- 262. Defendant Magnus Title proceeded with this "crazy" action. Indeed, Defendant Magnus Title went on to assist Defendant Cameron Jones in at least one other transaction where a third party paid money to convince Jones to release an admittedly invalid contract.
- 263. Despite having a fiduciary duty to both buyer and seller, on numerous occasions Magnus Title closed entire transactions without ever speaking to the homeowners, because

Defendant Cameron Jones demanded to retain absolute control over the transactions by acting as the sole point of contact. Magnus Title would also allow Defendant Cameron Jones to choose which notary was dispatched to witness the homeowner signatures on transaction documents, risking that the notary would also act as a part of the equity stripping scheme.

- 264. On January 4, 2024, Defendant Cameron Jones exchanged emails with branch manager Krista Diaz in which Diaz insisted on speaking to a homeowner before closing a transaction. Diaz said: "I just corresponded with the president of the company on this. It's always been a mandated practice that we speak with the seller directly as part of our due diligence. [. . .] It appears that Beth and Kristine may have been closing escrows without doing that but it really is a violation of company policy." On information and belief, Diaz was referring to Senior Escrow Officer Beth Ramirez and Escrow Officer Kristine Osborn.
- 265. On information and belief, Ramirez and Osborn were not the only escrow officers at Magnus Title who allowed Defendant Cameron Jones to close escrow even though he refused to let the homeowners to speak to the escrow officers. On information and belief, this occurred in multiple transactions, all in purported violation of company policy.
- 266. Defendant Magnus Title knew Defendant Cameron Jones engaged in unlawful transactions. On August 12, 2023, Defendant Cameron Jones contacted escrow officer Maureen Perry at Magnus, inquiring about purchasing an owner's title insurance policy for a transaction he had closed outside of escrow. This related to a "subject to" transaction where the homeowner had an FHA-backed reverse mortgage, which meant the "subject to" transaction was unlawful for at least two separate reasons.
- 267. Perry ignored Defendant Cameron Jones, so he followed up on his inquiry on August 14, followed up again on August 17, and followed up yet again on August 22. After that fourth request, Perry sent Defendant Cameron Jones a preliminary commitment for title insurance on August 22, 2023.
 - 268. On August 24, 2023 Defendant Cameron Jones inquired again about paying for the

- 269. Less than three hours later, Perry emailed Defendant Cameron Jones saying, "Hey there, been officially instructed that I cannot do Subj To's/Wraps on FHA or VA loans."
- 270. On August 31, 2023, Defendant Magnus Title branch manager Brittany Smith emailed Defendants Samuel Sutton and Ajoy Augustine to inform them that multiple transactions relating to FHA or VA loans would not be closed. She said, "As of yesterday, Mo [Maureen Perry] was fired from magnus [sic] for dong SUB2 transactions on FHA and VA loans. We can no longer do these transactions." On information and belief, Maureen Perry alone had closed at least 58 of these forbidden transactions before getting fired.
- 271. On September 1, 2023 Defendant Cameron Jones emailed Defendant Magnus Title requesting the company open escrow on a new transaction. Escrow Assistant Linnea Smyrnos forwarded the request to company president DiAnna Jackman saying, "A little bird told me this guy has a few lawsuits against him. Let me know what you would like us to do with him. He sent [Maureen Perry] a lot!!" Branch manager Nick Maggiore added, "I know he sent Mo a lot of deals but not sure if you want to pass this along to another [escrow officer] at Magnus or let him know we won't be taking anymore [sic] deals."
- 272. On September 5, 2023, Defendant Magnus Title resigned as escrow agent for at least three transactions related to Defendant Cameron Jones.
- 273. On September 8, 2023 Defendant Cameron Jones emailed Beth Ramirez, renewing his request for the same title insurance policy that led to the firing of Maureen Perry and the cancellation of multiple transactions for Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton.
- 274. When she learned what Defendant Cameron Jones had done from other Magnus employees, Ramirez responded, "Hahahahahaha Wonderful!! What is WRONG with these people?" Ramirez also requested a copy of a deed of trust recorded by Defendant Cameron Jones to "see what these crazies are doing."
 - 275. When asked by a title officer to advise "on what to do with this mess," Ramirez

responded, "We're going to do nothing! We're going to cancel and send Mr. Cameron Jones down the road. And if he sends any more deals, we'll review them with a fine tooth comb."

- 276. On information and belief, neither Ramirez nor Defendant Magnus Title reviewed future transactions from Defendant Cameron Jones with a fine tooth comb. In fact, Ramirez did the opposite by allowing escrow files to close without speaking to the seller, purportedly in violation of company policy.
- 277. On information and belief, the company policy of Defendant Magnus Title was to bend company policy in order to remain a part of the equity stripping scheme and continue generating revenue from defrauded homeowners.
- 278. The title company defendants both participated in transactions know as "subject to," "sub to," or "wrap" deals. These are deals where the homeowner would give a property deed to Defendant Cameron Jones or Defendant Samuel Sutton, but the defendants would not pay off the homeowner's mortgage. Instead, the defendants would keep the transaction secret from the mortgage lender, because lenders generally demand that mortgages be paid in full when the property transfers unless the buyer is separately approved to assume the mortgage.
- 279. These "sub to" transactions are particularly dangerous for homeowners, because the homeowner loses the property but remains stuck with the mortgage loan. The ruse is concealed by defendants making payments to the mortgage lender as if the transfer of title never occurred.
- 280. These "sub to" transactions are particularly profitable for the equity stripping enterprise, because the defendants do not need to borrow money to close a transaction. Instead, they keep the homeowner as a tenant to cover the existing mortgage payments, watch the property gain value through market appreciation, and evict the homeowner whenever they choose.
- 281. Rather than warning the mortgage lenders that the defendants were inducing homeowners to participate in a fraudulent conspiracy, or even simply refusing to participate in a fraudulent transaction, Defendant American Title prepared a multi-page "wrap addendum" to be signed by both buyer and seller in a "sub to" transaction.

282. The wrap addendum warns buyer and seller that if the mortgage lender ever finds out what happened it could "ultimately result in the loss of the real property being conveyed in this transaction and any equity the parties may have in the property." Having thoroughly explained potentially disastrous legal liability arising from the transaction, American Title demands that the buyer and homeowner both execute a "Hold Harmless Agreement" indemnifying the title company for any liability they may incur due to their actions inducing and/or facilitating a breach of the underlying mortgage agreement.

Law Firm Involvement

- 283. Lawyers were also key players in the equity stripping scheme. Lawyers were used to threaten homeowners with lawsuits, follow through with those threats by filing lawsuits, defend numerous lawsuits, defend the scammers from investigators and angry judges, and evict homeowners. All of these things are acceptable actions from lawyers representing clients in a manner that is legal and ethical. The lawyer defendants in this case did not behave legally and ethically.
- 284. Defendant Moore is a long-time attorney for Defendant Samuel Sutton. Though he purported at various times to represent Defendant A-Z Homes, Defendant Cameron Jones, other participants in the equity stripping scheme, and victims of the equity stripping scheme, in fact his loyalty was always to Defendant Samuel Sutton and remains so to this day.
- 285. Defendant Moore represented an heir seeking appointment as personal representative while simultaneously representing and being paid by Defendant A-Z Homes. Defendant Moore did not inform the court that he represented both seller and buyer in a real estate transaction, because revealing that ethical conflict of interest might have convinced the probate court to appoint a non-conflicted individual as personal representative. Defendant Moore's motive in these actions was financial gain.
- 286. In July 2018, Defendant Moore made false statements to the Office of the Attorney General in order to forestall or prevent a deeper consumer fraud investigation into Defendant

Samuel Sutton and his alter ego company, Defendant Magnum Financial. The statements were made in a letter responding to an inquiry from the Consumer Information and Complaints section regarding a homeowner complaint.

- 287. In the letter, Defendant Moore defended the actions of Defendant Magnum Financial in a transaction involving a property on West Dailey Street. In the letter, Defendant Moore claimed at the time the parties executed the purchase agreement the homeowner "asserted that he had no debt beyond his mortgage on the property." This statement was false, and Defendant Moore knew or should have known it was false. In fact, the same day the homeowner signed the purchase agreement, Defendant Jennifer Herbst transmitted a copy of the agreement by email to Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, and Ajoy Augustine telling them not only the amount due on the mortgage, but also that the Internal Revenue Service had placed an \$8,000 lien on the property.
- 288. In the letter, Defendant Moore also stated, "Magnum ran title and it was determined that more money was owed on the property than the sale price. Magnum then notified [the complaining homeowner] that they were not going through with the contract and [the complaining homeowner] agreed." This statement was false, and Defendant Moore knew or should have known it was false. In fact, Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton spent weeks trying to flip the West Dailey Street property to an investor, including listing it on a service used by investors.
- 289. Contrary to the claims of Defendant Moore, it was the homeowners themselves who sent a letter to the title company demanding cancellation of the transaction because Defendant Magnum Financial was long past the contracted date for close of escrow and still had not performed.
- 290. Defendant Fowler St. Clair assisted Defendant Cameron Jones and his alter ego entities by repeatedly sending demand letters and filing lawsuits to enforce contracts that were not merely unenforceable, but legally nonexistent.

- 291. One fundamental principle of contract law is mutuality of obligation, which is to say each party must be obligated to do something for the other party. If an agreement places an obligation on one party, while the other party is entirely free to either perform the contract or walk away, then by definition it is not a real contract, it is an illusory contract. As the Arizona Supreme Court put it, "an agreement which permits one party to withdraw at his pleasure is void," because "to agree to do something and to reserve the right to cancel the agreement at will is no agreement at all." *Shattuck v. Precision-Toyota, Inc.*, 115 Ariz. 586, 588 (1977) (internal citations and quotations omitted).
- 292. Arizona courts do not treat void contracts as agreements that can be made enforceable by severing improper provisions. Rather, the courts treat void contracts as if they never happened. As the Arizona Supreme Court put it, "A void contract is one which never had any legal existence or effect, and it cannot in any manner have life breathed into it." *Columbus Life Ins. Co. v. Wilmington Tr., N.A.*, 255 Ariz. 382, 384, ¶ 8 (2023) (quoting *Nat'l Union Indemn. Co. v. Bruce Bros., Inc.*, 44 Ariz. 454, 464 (1934)).
- 293. Defendant Gazelle Investors used a standard form Purchase and Sale Agreement that created an illusory contract. Section 7 of the standard Purchase and Sale Agreement stated, "This is a legal binding agreement between both parties in which the seller is unable to cancel this agreement for any reason, However, the buyer can cancel this agreement with a full refund of the buyer's earnest money." [All errors in original.]
- 294. This provision rendering Defendant Gazelle Investors' obligation illusory is consistent with the business practice of Defendant Cameron Jones: he rushes to distressed homeowners and uses high-pressure tactics to get the homeowners to sign the purchase agreement immediately, while giving himself weeks or months to test the market and decide if the deal will be profitable for him. If Defendant Cameron Jones comes to believe a particular purchase agreement is not profitable, he will cancel it and reclaim his (paltry) earnest money deposit. If a homeowner comes to believe the purchase agreement is not profitable, Defendant Cameron Jones

engages Defendant Fowler St. Clair to force the homeowner out of the home.

- 295. Defendant Cameron Jones knew this provision in the contract—allowing the buyer to cancel at will but locking the seller into an unbreakable obligation—was illegitimate. He demonstrated this knowledge on multiple occasions, when he used his own standard form purchase agreement to re-sell property he had obtained from homeowners to other investors. When using his own form with Defendant Gazelle Investors as the seller instead of the buyer, he removes the cancellation clause entirely. Defendant Cameron Jones refuses to be bound by a cancellation clause that he repeatedly enforced against the homeowners who fell victim to his scheme.
- 296. Defendant Fowler St. Clair had actual knowledge of this provision in the standard form contract, because attorney Brian Locker repeatedly drafted demand letters and lawsuits for specific performance that quoted the provision. Frequently this led to default judgments against homeowners, and eventually their eviction from the property—all because Defendant Fowler St. Clair knowingly used the courts to enforce contracts that did not even exist under Arizona law. Defendant Fowler St. Clair did this for financial gain.
- 297. On information and belief, Defendant Fowler St. Clair advised Defendant Cameron Jones to use contract enforcement suits strategically in order to avoid actual judicial scrutiny of his standard form purchase agreement. Defendant Fowler St. Clair would fully pursue final default judgments when the homeowner could not afford to defend the claims in court, but when homeowners did hire attorneys to fight back, Defendant Cameron Jones would settle rather than defend the contract in court.
- 298. Defendant Zona Law assisted the equity stripping scheme by assisting Defendants Cameron Jones with evictions of homeowners. These evictions were based not only on the legally unenforceable purchase agreements, but also on legally unenforceable leaseback agreements. Attorney Scott Williams carried out the eviction actions without concern for whether the eviction was based on solid legal and ethical ground.

- 299. On information and belief, Defendant Zona Law makes a library of blank eviction forms available to its clients so the clients can prepare and serve legal documents without involving (and paying) an attorney for the time spent doing so. Defendant Cameron Jones abused this system to create documents of dubious legality with proper service in question.
- 300. Defendant Zona Law knew or had reason to know that Defendant Cameron Jones was engaged in multiple illegal transactions, yet continued representing him in his efforts to turn his victims from distressed homeowners into distressed people without homes.
- 301. On information and belief, a predecessor firm to Defendant Zona Law performed similar eviction tasks for the A-Z Homes Joint Venture. A significant portion of the legal advice given to the members of the joint venture came from an employee of the predecessor firm designated as "Legal Assistant/Client Liaison" and an employee designated as "Legal Assistant/Office Manager." Even with this legal advice provided by non-lawyers, the joint venture still managed to make significant errors in the eviction process because they were largely left to handle eviction matters on their own, using access to a library of blank forms and sporadic guidance from the firm's office staff.

COUNT 1

CONSUMER FRAUD ACT – FRAUDULENT AFFIDAVITS

(Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton)

- 302. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 303. As part of the equity stripping scheme, Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton would execute sworn affidavits attesting that they had entered into an agreement with a homeowner to acquire a property, and record those affidavits with the county recorder. Doing so put a cloud on the title to the property that lasted two years, giving them leverage to force homeowners to sell to them, or alternatively to force legitimate buyers to pay them off before they release the affidavit. Between 2016 and 2024, Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton collectively executed at least 120 such affidavits for recordation.

- 304. These affidavits were sworn under oath, subject to legal penalties for false attestation, witnessed by a notary, and recorded in a system available to the public. Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton intended members of the public to rely on these sworn statements, as evidenced by the expense they incurred in order to place a cloud on the titles of the properties.
- 305. A large number of those affidavits identified either Defendant Cameron Jones or Defendant Samuel Sutton as the Affiant, and then defined the Buyer in the attached purchase agreement as the Affiant.
- 306. However, neither Defendant Cameron Jones nor Defendant Samuel Sutton were ever named as buyers in the underlying purchase agreements. Rather, the formal buyers were Alter Ego Entities, such as Defendant Gazelle Investors, Defendant Magnum Financial, and Defendant A-Z Homes.
- 307. These sworn and recorded affidavits contained misrepresentations in connection with the sale or advertisement of real property.
- 308. These falsehoods made under oath were intended to create confusion and make it more difficult for distressed homeowners to identify the parties against whom they could vindicate their rights.
- 309. Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton knew how to create affidavits that did not contain false statements regarding the identity of the buyer, because together they recorded at least 50 affidavits that did not contain this falsehood.
- 310. Creating an affidavit that contained this falsehood, when they were fully capable of creating affidavits without the falsehood, was a knowing and willful act by the Affiant in each instance.
- 311. Each individual affidavit in which the named Affiant and the named Buyer were different constitutes a separate act in violation of the Consumer Fraud Act.
 - 312. Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton knew or should have known that

making false statements under oath, and recording those false statements with the county recorder in order to force homeowners to engage in real estate transactions with them, was a violation of the Consumer Fraud Act.

313. The State seeks the maximum civil penalty for each fraudulent affidavit pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531, as well as other remedies available for violations of the Consumer Fraud Act.

COUNT 2 CONSUMER FRAUD ACT – RECRUITING

(Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Brad Berdine, Todd Campbell, Ajoy Augustine)

- 314. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 315. A key element of the equity stripping scheme during the A-Z Homes Joint Venture period was recruiting drivers and door knockers. Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Brad Berdine, and Todd Campbell performed this recruiting through direct outreach to individuals and by hosting at least one "educational" seminar.
- 316. The 2019 Profiteam Bootcamp lured in potential drivers with false statements about the qualifications and experience of the presenters at the event. Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Berdine, Campbell, and Augustine participated in the creation and dissemination of this false and fraudulent advertising. All of these defendants knew or should have known that the advertising materials disseminated were false and fraudulent in violation of the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 317. Although the defendants sold tickets to the Profiteam Bootcamp, the true purpose of the event was not financial gain through the sale of event tickets, but rather recruiting drivers and door knockers to participate in their equity stripping scheme.
- 318. Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Berdine, Campbell, and Augustine characterized Defendant A-Z Homes as a "School" so they could convince drivers and door knockers to work long hours for low compensation, on the grounds that the false and fraudulent

1 tu 2 N 3 "" 4 w 5 ""

tuition charge purportedly waived for these individuals was part of their compensation package. Not only was the claim about charging tuition false, the information imparted by the so-called "School" was not worthwhile because it was accompanied by a non-compete agreement that itself was unenforceable under Arizona law for multiple reasons. The information imparted by the "School" was related to the equity stripping scheme, and therefore the curriculum itself was unlawful.

- 319. Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Berdine, Campbell, and Augustine willfully drafted, designed, prepared, and disseminated advertisements they knew contained false information to recruit other participants for their equity stripping scheme.
- 320. Each individual and entity to which the false and fraudulent Bootcamp flyer was targeted constitutes a separate act in violation of the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 321. Each time the listed defendants convinced a driver to execute the "Education Confidentiality, Noncircumvention Agreement & Right of First Refusal" agreement constitutes a separate act in violation of the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 322. The State seeks the maximum civil penalty for each act pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531, as well as other remedies available for violations of the Consumer Fraud Act.

COUNT 3 CONSUMER FRAUD ACT – FRAUDULENT ACTS (All Defendants)

- 323. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 324. From 2016 to 2024, the listed defendants used deception, fraud, false pretense, false promises, and misrepresentations in connection with the sale or advertisement of purported real estate services to Arizona consumers.
- 325. Those acts include making false statements to homeowners about "saving" property from foreclosure when the true intent was to deceive the homeowners into losing their houses to the defendants rather than the foreclosing banks.

- 326. Those acts include false representations about the entities represented by the individual defendants, including the "sticker campaign" to deceive homeowners into believing defendants were a package delivery service, the creation of Defendant Arizona's Helping Hands to deceive homeowners into believing the defendants represented a charitable organization, and using company names that did not exist at all to deceive homeowners into believing the defendants represented legitimate businesses.
- 327. Those acts included presenting homeowners with purchase agreements that purportedly could not be cancelled by the seller, when in fact the defendants knew or should have known that the purchase agreement forms were void and unenforceable under the laws of the State of Arizona.
- 328. Those acts included presenting homeowners with purchase agreements stating: "Seller hereby authorizes Buyer to record the deed upon its execution and recording." This sentence does not make sense logically, syntactically, or legally, but was drafted to confuse homeowners into believing that the deed would be recorded at or after the close of escrow. In fact, in numerous cases the defendants would record deeds transferring ownership of the property long before the close of escrow.
- 329. Those acts included presenting homeowners with purchase agreements stating: "The Buyer and Seller agree and warrant that there are no oral promises, conditions, representations, understandings, interpretations, or terms of any kind as conditions or inducements to the execution hereof or in effect between the parties that are not also in this Contract." In fact, the defendants frequently made additional promises and offered additional inducements to homeowners, such as preparing, filing, and paying for fraudulent bankruptcy and probate cases, as well as giving things of value to the homeowners such as mobile phones and groceries.
- 330. These acts include sending demand letters to homeowners demanding compliance with contracts that are void under Arizona law and demanding the homeowners vacate the property on pain of eviction after defendants fraudulently obtained title to the properties.

- 331. These acts include participating in the filing of bankruptcy and probate proceedings with fraudulent intent.
- 332. These acts include recording documents purporting to claim an interest in real property while knowing or having reason to know the documents were invalid, in violation of A.R.S. § 33-420.
- 333. These acts include closing escrow without conducting adequate due diligence into the legitimacy of the transaction, including refusing to contact purported sellers at the insistence of the equity stripping scammers.
- 334. These acts include, as described in an email from Partner C to Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, and Brad Berdine, taking affirmative steps to "pose as a home advocate."
- 335. Defendants Cameron Jones, Sal Huesca, Daniel Carrillo, Mitchell Mendez, Evelyn Huesca, and Jennifer Herbst all made false and deceptive statements directly to homeowners in order to deceive those homeowners into selling their homes at a price far below the fair market value. These defendants knew or should have known that their acts violated the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 336. Defendants Invest in AZ (through Partner C), A-Z Homes (though the principals and the individuals working at the direct of the principals), and the Alter Ego Entities (through their alter ego individuals) all participated in the false and fraudulent acts.
- 337. Defendants John N. Moore, Fowler St. Clair, Zona Law, Magnus Title, and American Title Service Agency all participated in the false and fraudulent acts. These defendants knew or should have known that their actions violated the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 338. Taken together, these acts combined to form a scheme or artifice to defraud, which constitutes an unfair business practice under the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 339. The State seeks the maximum civil penalty for each act committed by each defendant pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531, as well as other remedies available for violations of the Consumer Fraud Act.

COUNT 4 CONSUMER FRAUD ACT – OMISSIONS

(Defendant Cameron Jones)

- 340. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 341. In 2023 alone, on at least 25 occasions Defendant Cameron Jones (acting on behalf of one or more of his alter ego entities) entered into agreements assigning his interest in real property to wholesale buyers and/or wholesale sellers as defined in A.R.S. § 44-5101.
- 342. Defendant Cameron Jones did not make the written disclosures required by A.R.S. § 44-5101, thereby concealing from the other party the statutory right to cancel the contract if they desired.
- 343. Defendant Cameron Jones omitted the mandatory disclosures with the intent that the other parties to the agreements would rely on the omission and proceed with the agreement rather than cancelling the agreement.
- 344. Defendant Cameron Jones knew or should have known that failing to disclose information related to a transaction when such disclosures are mandated by law violates the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 345. The State seeks the maximum civil penalty for each omission by Defendant Cameron Jones pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531, as well as other remedies available for violations of the Consumer Fraud Act.

COUNT 5

CONSUMER FRAUD ACT – VOID CONTRACTS

(Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Fowler St. Clair, John N. Moore, Magnus Title, American Title Service Agency, all Cameron Jones Alter Ego Entities, all Samuel Sutton Alter Ego Entities)

- 346. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
 - 347. Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton created and used purchase

- 348. The defendants who participated in the A-Z Homes Joint Venture executed at least 65 purchase agreements for residential real estate containing the following provision: "[N]otwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Contract, at any time on or before the Close of Escrow, Buyer shall have the right to terminate this Contract if Buyer determines in its sole discretion that the Property is not feasible and/or that the Property does not meet Buyer's purchase criteria."
- 349. Defendant Cameron Jones and his related entities have executed at least 105 purchase agreements for residential real estate containing the following provision: "This is a legal binding agreement between both parties in which the seller is unable to cancel this agreement for any reason, However, the buyer can cancel this agreement with a full refund of the buyer's earnest money."
- 350. These purchase agreements lack mutuality of obligation, and are void under Arizona law. These agreements are not merely unenforceable, by definition they are not contracts at all. In each instance, the distressed homeowner is stuck with the agreement, unable to escape for any reason, while the buyer can terminate the contract at any time for any reason or no reason whatsoever with a full refund of any earnest money paid.
- 351. This allowed the defendants to take as much time as they wished shopping around for opportunities to flip the property to another owner, and if they could not sell the property for a profit they deemed sufficient, they would simply cancel the contract.
- 352. Earnest money is money deposited into escrow by a buyer to demonstrate a good faith intention to complete the transaction. Cancelling the transaction for a reason not expressly stated in the agreement typically results in releasing the earnest money to the seller, as compensation for having removed the property from the open market during the time the purchase agreement was in effect.
 - 353. By giving themselves an absolute and unconditional right to cancel any purchase

agreement and get a full refund of all earnest money, the defendants were free to test the waters and learn how much equity they would be able to strip from a homeowner, at no cost to themselves. This in effect tricks the distressed homeowner into giving the defendants an option contract for free, while the homeowners lose valuable time that could be spent finding a way to prevent foreclosure through loan modification or other means.

- 354. The title company defendants pressed forward with these void contracts on the grounds that the contracts contain escrow instructions that they are obligated to follow. However, escrow instructions contained in a void contract are themselves void.
- 355. The title company defendants had actual knowledge of repeated use of void contracts as free option contracts but did not disclose this knowledge to any sellers, in violation of their fiduciary duties.
- 356. The law firm defendants had actual knowledge of repeated use of void contracts as free option contracts, yet they pressed forward with making litigation threats to distressed homeowners and following through on those threats by filing lawsuits, and/or defending lawsuits by contending that contracts they knew to be void were valid and enforceable, in violation of their legal and ethical duties.
- 357. All listed defendants knew or should have known that the purchase agreements were void and unenforceable.
- 358. All listed defendants moved forward with enforcement of contracts that were void and unenforceable for the purpose of financial gain.
- 359. Securing signatures of homeowners on purchase agreement forms that are void under Arizona law constitutes an unfair business practice under the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 360. All listed defendants knew or should have known that the business practices of Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton were unfair business practices.
- 361. All defendants knowingly, intentionally, and willingly participated in the scheme to enforce void contracts and strip homeowners of the equity in their property.

362. The State seeks the maximum civil penalty against each defendant for each void contract in which they played a role (or failed to disclose) pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531, as well as other remedies available for violations of the Consumer Fraud Act.

COUNT 6

CONSUMER FRAUD ACT – FORECLOSURE CONSULTANTS

(Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Jennifer Herbst, Sal Huesca, Evelyn Huesca, Daniel Carrillo, Mitchell Mendez)

- 363. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 364. On multiple occasions between 2017 and 2024, the listed defendants contacted homeowners of residences in foreclosure with solicitations or offers to contact a creditor on behalf of a homeowner, arrange to extend the time for reinstatement of a mortgage or deed of trust, and/or arrange the delay or postponement of a foreclosure sale.
- 365. On multiple occasions between 2017 and 2024, the listed defendants advised homeowners of residences in foreclosure to file documents with the United States Bankruptcy Court and/or assisted in the preparation of documents for filing with the United States Bankruptcy Court.
- 366. On multiple occasions between 2017 and 2024, the listed defendants represented to homeowners of residences in foreclosure that the services the defendants offered would prevent or postpone a foreclosure sale, assist the homeowner in exercising a right of reinstatement, avoid or ameliorate the impairment of the homeowner's credit resulting from the occurrence of a foreclosure sale, and/or save the homeowner's residence from foreclosure.
- 367. On multiple occasions between 2017 and 2024, the listed defendants accepted a power of attorney from a homeowner of a residence in foreclosure for purposes other than inspection of documents as provided by law, including but not limited to power to act in the place of the homeowner with respect to any issues involving the residence in foreclosure.
 - 368. The listed defendants performed all of these actions for compensation, which was

provided by the homeowners in the form of executing documents purporting to give the listed defendants (or their Alter Ego Entities) an interest in the residence in foreclosure by way of a purchase agreement, a deed, and/or another instrument conveying an interest in the residence.

- 369. In every instance when the listed defendants performed these acts, they failed to give the homeowners a right to rescind the agreement within three days.
- 370. On multiple occasions, Defendant Samuel Sutton required homeowners executing purchase agreements to waive their right to rescind the agreement within three days.
 - 371. These actions violate the Foreclosure Consultants Act, A.R.S. §§ 44-1378 et seq.
- 372. Each violation of the Foreclosure Consultants Act constitutes a violation of the Consumer Fraud Act pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1378.07(B).
- 373. The listed defendants knew or should have known that their actions violated the Foreclosure Consultants Act and therefore violated the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 374. The listed defendants acted willfully and intentionally when they persuaded distressed homeowners that the defendants wanted to help the homeowners save their homes from foreclosure.
- 375. The State seeks the maximum civil penalty against each defendant for each violation of the Foreclosure Consultants Act pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531, as well as other remedies available for violations of the Consumer Fraud Act.

COUNT 7

<u>CONSUMER FRAUD ACT – UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW</u>

(Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Sal Huesca, Evelyn Huesca, Daniel Carrillo, Jennifer Herbst)

- 376. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 377. On multiple occasions, the listed defendants advised distressed homeowners that one way to delay a trustee sale is to file for bankruptcy and notify the trustee of the filing, taking advantage of the automatic stay conferred on those seeking the protection of federal bankruptcy

laws.

378. Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton trained their drivers and door knockers to advise homeowners how to use the bankruptcy system to delay trustee sales. The training included the distribution of written training materials to drivers and door knockers, distribution of blank bankruptcy forms to drivers and door knockers for use when meeting with homeowners, and distribution of a sample bankruptcy petition demonstrating how to fill out the form in a way most advantageous to the defendants. The sample forms included a sample request

for the homeowner to pay the filing fees in installments.

- 379. The listed defendants would advise homeowners that the case initiation forms were the only forms the homeowners would need to worry about, because the court would automatically dismiss the case after a short time because the homeowner failed to file all required information. That short delay freezing the foreclosure auction would give Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton enough time to arrange for an equity-stripping transaction, and the automatic dismissal of the case for failure to file all required forms would lift the bankruptcy stay, clearing the path for the title companies to close the transaction.
- 380. The listed defendants would file the forms with the court and pay the filing fees on behalf of the homeowner. The listed defendants would file the request to pay the filing fees in four installments knowing that the case would be automatically dismissed before the second installment came due. In effect, the listed defendants were buying an automatic stay of the trustee sale, and paying only 1/4 of the filing fee to get the stay because they only needed the stay for a brief period of time.
- 381. Advising homeowners about their options for filing bankruptcy violates state law regarding the unauthorized practice of law.
- 382. Assisting homeowners in filling out bankruptcy forms, without a license to do so, violates federal bankruptcy law. At all relevant times, the listed defendants were not licensed to prepare bankruptcy forms.

- 383. Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton were barred by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona from directly or indirectly preparing documents for filing with the court. The order also applied to the "employees, agents and contractors" of Defendant A-Z Homes, which included Defendants Sal Huesca, Evelyn Huesca, Daniel Carrillo, and Jennifer Herbst.
- 384. The listed defendants continued to advise homeowners to file for bankruptcy protection to stop trustee sales, and continued to assist the homeowners with filling out and filing the forms. This includes a bankruptcy filing the District of Arizona on our about January 10, 2020. Defendant A-Z Homes entered into a contract to purchase property from a homeowner shortly before the bankruptcy forms for that homeowner were prepared and filed.
- 385. Nearly a year after the order from the District of Arizona bankruptcy court, Defendant Cameron Jones performed similar actions with a homeowner in Texas. Those actions led to a similar order barring Defendant Cameron Jones from assisting with bankruptcy in the Southern District of Texas, as well as a referral to the State Bar of Texas for unauthorized practice of law.
- 386. Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Sal Huesca, and Daniel Carrillo also advised homeowners regarding the filing of probate cases, including in at least one instance advising that the probate proceedings be kept secret from individuals who by law had a right to be notified.
- 387. The advice and assistance regarding bankruptcy and probate constitutes unauthorized practice of law in furtherance of a scheme to commit consumer fraud, which is an unfair business practice under the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 388. The listed defendants knew or should have known that they were violating the Consumer Fraud Act by engaging in the unauthorized practice of law, including by ignoring multiple warnings by federal bankruptcy judges that their actions were illegal.
 - 389. The State seeks the maximum civil penalty against each defendant for each act

 constituting unauthorized practice of law in which they played a role pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531, as well as other remedies available for violations of the Consumer Fraud Act.

COUNT 8

CONSUMER FRAUD ACT – FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION OF VULNERABLE ADULTS

(Defendants Cameron Jones, Sal Huesca, Daniel Carrillo)

- 390. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 391. During the relevant time periods, the listed defendants engaged in multiple real estate transactions with adults who were unable to protect themselves from exploitation due to physical and/or mental impairments.
- 392. The listed defendants established relationships with these vulnerable adults by portraying themselves as associates of an empty shell company deceptively named to sound like a charitable organization, promising to save the vulnerable adults' homes from foreclosure, and handling important confidential actions for the vulnerable adults, such as making direct contact with lenders, preparing legal paperwork, and acting as the sole point of contact with escrow officers.
- 393. Sometimes within mere hours of meeting the listed defendants, the vulnerable adults were sharing highly private and confidential information with the listed defendants, including copies of government-issued identification documents, social security numbers, birthdates, identities and locations of relatives, mortgage account information, bank account information, and death certificates of loved ones.
- 394. In both intent and effect, the falsehoods and half-truths told by the listed defendants established confidential relationships between the listed defendants and the vulnerable adults.
- 395. The listed defendants established the confidential relationships for the sole purpose of using the primary assets of the vulnerable adults—their homes—for the benefit of the listed defendants rather than the benefit of the vulnerable adults. In some instances, the listed defendants

succeeded in their scheme to take control of the vulnerable adults' property in a manner financially advantageous to the listed defendants and financially disadvantageous to the vulnerable adults.

- 396. Establishing confidential relationships with vulnerable adults for the sole purpose of financially exploiting those vulnerable adults is an unfair business practice, as it violates the Adult Protective Services Act, A.R.S. § 46-456.
- 397. The listed defendants knew or should have known that deceiving vulnerable adults in order to trick them into giving away their homes at far below market value violates the Consumer Fraud Act.
- 398. The State seeks the maximum civil penalty against each defendant for each act of financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531, as well as other remedies available for violations of the Consumer Fraud Act.

COUNT 9 RACKETEERING – SCHEME OR ARTIFICE TO DEFRAUD

(All Defendants)

- 399. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 400. All defendants in this case were associated with each other by the fact that all worked in one way or another toward the common purpose of advancing the equity stripping scheme originally launched by Defendants Cameron Jones and Dorothy Jones through Defendant Gazelle Investors.
- 401. The scheme was a comprehensive end to end plan in which all defendants played their part. From entity formation, to recruiting associates for the enterprise through fraud, to engineering software making the scheme more efficient, to developing false and misleading pretexts for contacting distressed homeowners in the guise of "saving the home from foreclosure," to preparing and filing fraudulent documents with bankruptcy courts and probate courts, to lawyers bringing frivolous claims in court in order to spend homeowners into submission, to escrow officers closing questionable deals for their VIP customers while ignoring their duties to

victimized homeowners, to lawyers filing evictions *en masse* without ever inquiring why their clients were beset by so many homeowners claiming fraud.

- 402. These defendants knew what they were doing. The principals knew they were constructing a massive scheme to transfer wealth from distressed homeowners to their own pockets, and they worked hard at innovating their fraudulent techniques in order to exploit more and more homeowners. The associates of Defendants Cameron Jones and Samuel Sutton knew they were participating in a massive fraud scheme that depended on deceiving homeowners, courts, and lenders. The lawyers and title companies knew the people running the enterprise were acting improperly, and they knew innocent homeowners were getting hurt. Every single defendant played their part in the scheme, working as a continuing unit to achieve a common purpose: making money by tricking distressed homeowners into selling their homes far below fair market value.
- 403. The equity stripping scheme was an intricate plan, constantly reviewed and refined by the principals in charge of the enterprise. The plan employed strategies that were artful and evil, designed and revised to overcome any and all objections homeowners made, either prior to executing the void purchase agreements or after the homeowners realized they had been scammed.
- 404. The scheme relied upon false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, promises, and material omissions.
- 405. The scheme was intended to mislead homeowners for the purpose of gaining financial benefit.
- 406. The scheme was successful in obtaining benefits, such that the defendants collectively generated millions of dollars in revenue for themselves.
- 407. The scheme was chargeable or indictable under the laws of the State of Arizona as a class 2 felony and would be punishable by imprisonment of more than one year. A.R.S. § 13-2310.
 - 408. All participants in the scheme did so for financial gain.

- 409. The equity stripping scheme meets the definition of racketeering pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(xx).
- 410. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2314(A), the Attorney General is authorized to file this action on behalf of all persons who sustained injury to their property as a result of the racketeering scheme for recovery of treble damages and cost of suit. The Attorney General may also seek remedies before a determination of liability, including restraining orders and enforcement of constructive trusts pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2314(C).
- 411. All defendants that acquired any property as a result of this scheme currently stand as involuntary trustees, holding that property, its proceeds and its fruits in constructive trust for the benefit of the persons victimized by the scheme.

COUNT 10 RACKETEERING – FORGERY

(Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Sal Huesca, Daniel Carrillo, John N. Moore)

- 412. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 413. The listed defendants were associated in fact as part of the equity stripping scheme in which the enterprise repeatedly offered and/or presented written instruments containing false information in order to accomplish the goal of the scheme.
- 414. The instruments containing false information included sworn affidavits recorded with the Maricopa County Recorder's Office, bankruptcy forms submitted to United States bankruptcy courts, probate forms submitted to Maricopa County probate courts, response to a consumer inquiry from the Attorney General, and warranty deeds and deeds of trust recorded with the Maricopa County Recorder's Office.
- 415. The listed defendants presented these false instruments with intent to defraud, including defrauding homeowners, mortgage lenders, judges, and the Arizona Attorney General.
 - 416. These acts of forgery are chargeable or indictable under the laws of the State of

Arizona as a class 4 felony and would be punishable by imprisonment of more than one year. A.R.S. § 13-2002.

- 417. The listed defendants committed these act for financial gain.
- 418. These acts of forgery, deployed in service of the equity stripping scheme and as part of that same enterprise, meet the definition of racketeering pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2301(D)(4)(b)(iv).
- 419. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2314(A), the Attorney General is authorized to file this action on behalf of all persons who sustained injury to their property as a result of racketeering for recovery of treble damages and cost of suit. The Attorney General may also seek remedies before a determination of liability, including restraining orders and enforcement of constructive trusts pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2314(C).
- 420. All defendants that acquired any property as a result of this scheme currently stand as involuntary trustees, holding that property, its proceeds and its fruits in constructive trust for the benefit of the persons victimized by the scheme.

COUNT 11 RACKETEERING – ILLEGALLY CONDUCTING AN ENTERPRISE (All Defendants)

- 421. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 422. At all relevant times, the persons and entities named as defendants in this suit were associated in fact over an extended period of time working toward the common goal of successfully executing the equity stripping scheme. The defendants collectively operated as an enterprise during the relevant period.
- 423. Each of the defendants conducted the affairs of the enterprise by playing specific roles in the equity stripping scheme.
- 424. Each of the defendants engaged in racketeering through a scheme or artifice to defraud and/or forgery. The affairs of the enterprise were conducted through these racketeering

acts, and the purpose of the enterprise was to engage in racketeering acts.

- 425. Each of the defendants participated directly or indirectly in the conduct of the enterprise knowing that the enterprise was being conducted through acts of racketeering.
- 426. Each of the defendants knowingly participated in the conduct of the enterprise for financial gain.
- 427. The acts of the defendants meet the definition of illegally conducting an enterprise pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2312(B).
- 428. These acts of illegally conducting an enterprise are chargeable or indictable under the laws of the State of Arizona as a class 3 felony and would be punishable by imprisonment of more than one year. A.R.S. § 13-2312(D).
- 429. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2314(A), the Attorney General is authorized to file this action on behalf of all persons who sustained injury to their property as a result illegally conducting the enterprise for recovery of treble damages and cost of suit. The Attorney General may also seek remedies before a determination of liability, including restraining orders and enforcement of constructive trusts pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2314(C).
- 430. All defendants that acquired any property as a result of this scheme currently stand as involuntary trustees, holding that property, its proceeds and its fruits in constructive trust for the benefit of the persons victimized by the scheme.

COUNT 12 ALTER EGO

(Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Sal Huesca, all Cameron Jones Alter Ego Entities, all Samuel Sutton Alter Ego Entities, all Sal Huesca Alter Ego Entities)

- 431. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 432. Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, and Sal Huesca established their respective Alter Ego Entities to facilitate their equity stripping scheme. Each acted as sole member and manager of their respective Alter Ego Entities exercising complete unity of control.

22.

433. Numerous actions by Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, and Sal Huesca demonstrate this unity of control, including commingling personal and corporate funds, diverting company property for personal use, failure to maintain books and records of account in reasonable order, forming the entities for the purpose of perpetrating illegal acts, and undercapitalization.

- 434. The Alter Ego Entities, as controlled by their respective individual defendants, participated in the racketeering enterprise. Most of the Cameron Jones Alter Ego Entities were created for specific transactions, as the names of the entities correspond to the addresses of the property purchased (or intended to be purchased) with the purpose-created entity.
- 435. On multiple occasions Alter Ego Entities were used to create the illusion of arm's-length transactions by assigning purchase contracts between Alter Ego Entities and generating assignment fees paid by the assignee company to the assignor company on paper, even though both assignor and assignee were controlled entirely by the same person.
- 436. Under the circumstances alleged in this pleading, observing the privileges and protections of the Alter Ego Entities would be unjust to scores of homeowners who were victimized by consumer fraud and racketeering.
- 437. Liability for the actions of Alter Ego Entities should be imputed to their respective individual defendants, and the actions of the listed individual defendants should be imputed to their respective Alter Ego Entities.

COUNT 13 LIS PENDENS

(All Cameron Jones Alter Ego Entities, all Samuel Sutton Alter Ego Entities, all Sal Huesca Alter Ego Entities)

- 438. The allegations in all previous and subsequent paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 439. The real properties to which the listed Alter Ego Entities currently hold title were acquired as part of the ongoing equity stripping scheme.
 - 440. Following a finding of liability under the Consumer Fraud Act against the Alter Ego

Entities and their respective individual defendants, the real properties acquired by means of unlawful acts and/or practices may be restored to the rightful owners or disgorged. A.R.S. § 44-1528(A).

- 441. Following a finding of liability under the Racketeering Act against the Alter Ego Entities and their respective individual defendants, the real properties acquired through illegally conducting an enterprise are subject to forfeiture. A.R.S. § 13-2314(D)(6).
- 442. This action affects title to the real properties, and the State is entitled to record notices of the pendency of this action pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-1191.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff State of Arizona prays for a Judgment:

- a. Finding liability on all counts in this Complaint;
- b. Ordering Defendants to pay damages and/or treble damages in amounts to be proved at trial;
- c. Ordering Defendants to pay civil penalties in amounts to be proved at trial;
- d. Ordering Defendants to disgorge any profits, gains, gross receipts, or other benefits obtained in violation of the Consumer Fraud Act;
- e. Ordering title to real property acquired in violation of the Consumer Fraud Act be restored to the homeowners from whom it was unlawfully taken;
- f. Ordering title to real property acquired as a result of racketeering and/or illegally conducting an enterprise be forfeited upon proper notice and compliance with the forfeiture procedures set forth in chapter 39, title 13, Arizona Revised Statutes;
- g. Dissolving the Cameron Jones Alter Ego Entities, the Samuel Sutton Alter Ego Entities, the Sal Huesca Alter Ego Entities, CJplexs Holdings LLC, Invest In AZ, LLC, Simple Realty Bits LLC; and A-Z Homes LLC;
- h. Permanently enjoining all Defendants from any future violations of the

	2
	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
	0
1	1
1	2
1	3
1	4
1	5
	6
1	7
1	8
1	9
2	0
2	1
2	2
2	3
2	4
2	5

1

Consumer Fraud Act and the Racketeering Act;

- i. Permanently enjoining Defendants Cameron Jones, Samuel Sutton, Sal Huesca, Daniel Carrillo, Dorothy Jones, Mitchell Mendez, Jennifer Herbst, Todd Campbell, and Ajoy Augustine (and their agents, assigns, and related entities) from engaging in any activity, business, or enterprise involving the purchase and sale of real property except for real property that is used as that defendant's primary residence and qualifies for a homestead exemption pursuant to A.R.S. 33-1101;
- j. Making appropriate referrals to the State Bar of Arizona for investigation of unauthorized practice of law or violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct;
- k. Making appropriate referrals to Adult Protective Services for investigation of financial exploitation of vulnerable adults;
- 1. Ordering Defendants to pay, jointly and severally, costs recoverable pursuant to any applicable statute, including A.R.S. § 44-1534; and
- m. Such other relief as the Court deems just and proper

DATED this 7th day of March, 2025.

KRISTIN K. MAYES ATTORNEY GENERAL

Shane M. Ham

Liza Lawson

Assistant Attorneys General

Attorneys for Plaintiff State of Arizona