

EXHIBIT A

LAW OFFICES OF RONALD A. MARRON, APLC

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Firm Resume

FIRM OVERVIEW

The Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron is a recognized class action and complex litigation firm based out of San Diego, California, representing clients across the nation. Founded in 1996 with an emphasis in consumer and securities fraud, the firm has expanded its practice to include complex cases such as electronic privacy, banking regulations, antitrust, automatic renewals, Telephone Consumer Protection Act and Government Environmental Law Litigation. The firm has skillfully litigated hundreds of lawsuits and arbitrations against investment advisors and stockbrokers, such as Morgan Stanley, LPL Financial, Merrill Lynch, Banc of America Securities, and Citigroup, who placed clients into unsuitable investments, failed to diversify, and who violated the Securities Act of 1933 and/or 1934. Aptly and competently prepared to represent its clients, the firm has taken on cases against the likes of Shell Oil, Citigroup, Wells Fargo, Union Bank of California, American Express Advisors, Morgan Stanley and Merrill Lynch. Since 2004, the firm has devoted most of its practice to the area of false and misleading labeling of Consumer Products and food, drug and over-the-counter products, as well as seeking to protect consumers from unauthorized and unsolicited telephone calls, SMS or text messages to cellular phones from corporations under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. The firm employs five attorneys, whose qualifications are discussed in brief below.

THE MARRON FIRM'S ATTORNEYS:

Ronald A. Marron, Founder

As the founder of the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron, APLC, Mr. Marron has been practicing law for 25 years. He was a member of the United States Marine Corps from 1984 to 1990 (Active Duty 1984-1988, Reserves 1988-1990) and thereafter received a B.S. in Finance from the University of Southern California (USC) in 1991. While attending Southwestern University School of Law (1992-1994), he interned at the California Department of Corporations with emphasis in consumer complaints and fraud investigations; and studied Bio-Chemistry at the University of Southern California and was a member of the Trojan Chemistry Club. Mr. Marron has extensive experience in class actions and other complex litigation and has obtained hundreds of millions of dollars on behalf of consumers as lead counsel. Mr. Marron has represented plaintiffs victimized in TCPA cases, Consumer Fraud, Antitrust, Broker-Dealer Liability, Ponzi schemes, shareholder derivative suits, and securities fraud cases.

Mr. Marron has assisted two United States Senate Subcommittees and their staff in investigations of financial fraud, plus the Senate Subcommittee on Aging relating to annuity sales practices by agents using proceeds from reverse mortgages. Mr. Marron's clients have testified before the United States Senate Subcommittee on Investigations relating to abusive sales practices alleged in a complaint he filed against All-Tech Investment Group. The hearings resulted in federal legislation that: (a) raised

the minimum capital requirements, and (b) required written risk disclosure signed by consumer. The civil action resulted in return of client funds and attorneys' fees pursuant to the private attorney general statute and/or Consumers Legal Remedies Act. Mr. Marron conducted the legal research and co-wrote the brief that resulted in the largest punitive damages award (500%) in NASD history for aggrieved investors against Dean Witter Reynolds in securities arbitration. Mr. Marron's opinion on deferred annuity sales practices targeting the elderly has often been sought by major financial news organizations and publications such as Forbes, the Wall Street Journal, the Kiplinger's Retirement Report, CNN, and FOX News affiliates. In addition, he has devoted significant energy and time educating seniors and senior citizen service providers, legislators, and various non-profits (including Elder Law & Advocacy) about deferred annuity sales practices targeting the elderly. Mr. Marron had numerous speaking engagements at FAST (Fiduciary Abuse Specialist Team), which is an organization devoted to the detection of, prevention, and prosecution of elder financial abuse; Adult Protective Services; and Elder Law & Advocacy, a non-profit dedicated to assisting seniors who have been the victims of financial fraud. He has litigated hundreds of lawsuits and arbitrations against major corporations, such as Shell Oil, Citigroup, Wells Fargo, Morgan Stanley, and Merrill Lynch. In recent years, Mr. Marron has devoted almost all of his practice to the area of TCPA and Privacy Violations, false and misleading labeling of food, dietary supplements, and over-the-counter products. He is a member in good standing of the State Bar of California; the United States District Courts for the Eastern, Southern and Northern Districts of New York; the United States District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Northern, and Southern Districts of California; the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan; the United States District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin; the United States District Court of Colorado; the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas; the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; and the Supreme Court of the United States.

Alexis M. Wood, Senior Associate

Ms. Wood graduated *cum laude* from California Western School of Law in 2009, where she was the recipient of the Dean's Merit Scholarship for Ethnic & Cultural Diversity and also Creative Problem Solving Scholarships. In addition, during law school, Ms. Wood was the President of the Elder, Child, and Family Law Society, and participated in the study abroad program on international and comparative human rights law in Galway, Ireland. Ms. Wood interned for the Alternate Public Defender during law school, and also held a judicial externship with the San Diego Superior Court. Upon graduation, Ms. Wood obtained her Nevada Bar license and worked at the law firm Alverson Taylor Mortensen & Sanders in Las Vegas, Nevada where she specialized in medical malpractice. Ms. Wood then obtained her license to practice law in California in 2010 and worked at the bankruptcy firm Pite Duncan, LLP in San Diego, California, in which she represented financial institutions in bankruptcy proceedings. She additionally worked for the national law firm Gordon & Rees, LLP as an associate attorney in the professional liability defense and tort & product liability practice groups. Ms. Wood was also selected to the 2015 and 2016 California Super Lawyers Rising Star list (general category)—a research-driven, peer influenced rating service of outstanding lawyers who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. No more than 2.5% of the lawyers in the state were selected for the Rising Stars list. Ms. Wood joined the Law Office of Ronald Marron in September of 2012 and has dedicated her practice to consumer advocacy. Ms. Wood is also a foster youth advocate with Voices for Children. She is a member in good standing of the State Bar of California; the State Bar of Nevada; the United States District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Northern, and Southern Districts of California; the United States District Court of Nevada; the United States District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin; the

United States District Court of Colorado; the United States Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas; and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Kas L. Gallucci, Senior Associate

Ms. Gallucci graduated *cum laude* from California Western School of Law in 2012, where she ranked in the top 12% of her graduating class and was listed on the Dean's Honor List for four terms. During law school, Ms. Gallucci received the highest grade in her Legal Skills and Advanced Legal Research classes. She also participated in the Capitals of Europe Summer Study Abroad Program, where the Honorable Samuel A. Alito, Jr. was a Distinguished Guest Jurist. Ms. Gallucci has worked for the firm since 2009 and has a number of years' experience in consumer fraud cases and is currently prosecuting violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. Ms. Gallucci also regularly assists with the firm's food, drug, and cosmetic cases. She is a member in good standing of the State Bar of California; the United States District Courts for the Central, Northern, Eastern, and Southern Districts of California; the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan; the United States District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin; the United States District Court for New Mexico; the United States District Court of Colorado; the United States Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas; and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Michael Houchin, Associate

Mr. Houchin has been with the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron since 2011. Prior to passing the California bar exam, Mr. Houchin worked as a law clerk for the firm while he attended law school courses in the evenings at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law. During law school, Mr. Houchin received four Witkin Awards for the highest grade achieved in his Legal Writing, Constitutional Law, American Indian Law, and California Civil Procedure courses. He also served as an editor on the *Thomas Jefferson Law Review* and was a member of an editing team that prepared a student Note for compliance with publishable quality standards. *See* I. Suruelo, *Harmonizing Section 14(B) with The Policy Goals of the NLRA on the Heels of Michigan's Enactment of Right-To-Work Laws*, 36 T. JEFFERSON L. REV. 427 (2014). Mr. Houchin graduated *magna cum laude* in May of 2015 and ranked in the top 5% of his graduating class. Through his work at the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron, APLC, Mr. Houchin has gained substantial familiarity with multi-district litigation proceedings, solutions for e-discovery management, and false advertising investigations. He is a member in good standing of the State Bar of California; and the United States District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Northern, and Southern Districts of California; the Western District of Wisconsin; the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; and the Supreme Court of the United States.

Lilach Halperin, Associate

Ms. Halperin graduated *cum laude* from the University of San Diego School of Law in 2018. During law school, Ms. Halperin held a judicial externship with the San Diego Superior Court and volunteered for numerous pro bono clinics, including the USD Entrepreneurship Clinic, the USD State Sales and Use Tax Clinic, and the San Diego Clean Slate Clinic. In addition, Ms. Halperin was the Chair of the USD Pro Bono Legal Advocates Consumer Affairs Clinic, where she worked with the Legal Aid Society of San Diego to assist indigent clients with lawsuits in consumer protection law. In her third year of law school, Ms. Halperin was hired as a law clerk for the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron and assisted in consumer fraud cases for the firm, including the areas of false and misleading labeling of consumer products. Ms. Halperin continued working for the Marron firm as an Associate Attorney after passing the July 2018 California Bar Exam. She is a member of good standing of the State Bar of California; the United States District Courts for the Southern, Northern,

Eastern and Central Districts of California; and the Western District of Wisconsin.

Elisa Pineda, Associate

Ms. Pineda graduated *magna cum laude* from California Western School of Law in 2019, where she was the recipient of the Dean's Merit Scholarship for Ethnic & Cultural Diversity and ranked in the top 3% of her graduating class. During law school, Ms. Pineda received an award for obtaining the highest grade in the following classes: Property I, Torts I, Trusts & Estates, Professional Ethics, and the Mediation Clinic. Ms. Pineda was listed on the Dean's Honor List for three terms. In addition, during law school, Ms. Pineda received an Outstanding Editor Award for her efforts as Senior Editor for her law school's International Law Journal. Ms. Pineda interned for both the San Diego District Attorney's Office and the San Diego Public Defender's Office. She also held a judicial externship with the Honorable United States Magistrate Judge Jill Burkhardt at the United States District Court for the Southern District of California. Ms. Pineda recently passed the California Bar and is now working as an Associate Attorney at the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron. She is a member in good standing of the State Bar of California and the United States District Court for the Southern District of California.

Support Staff

The Marron Firm also employs a number of knowledgeable and experienced support staff, including paralegals and legal assistants.

EXAMPLES OF MARRON FIRM'S SUCCESSES ON BEHALF OF CONSUMERS

Graves v. United Industries Corporation, No. 2:17-cv-06983-CAS-SK (C.D. Cal.)

On February 24, 2020, the Honorable Christina A. Snyder of the United States District Court for the Central District of California granted final approval of a \$2,500,000.00 class action settlement involving the alleged false advertising of a herbicide product and appointed the Marron Firm as class counsel. Judge Snyder noted that the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron had "vigorously represented the Class" and has "extensive experience in consumer class action litigation."

Hilsley v. Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., No. 3:17-cv-02335(GPC) (S.D. Cal.)

A nationwide class of consumers brought this suit against Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc. and Arnold Worldwide LLC for violations of California's Consumer Legal Remedies Act. Plaintiff alleges that certain Ocean Spray products falsely state "no artificial flavors" when they in fact contain the artificial flavoring agent, malic acid. On November 29, 2018, the Honorable Gonzalo P. Curiel granted class certification, appointing Ronald A. Marron, Michael Houchin, and Lilach Halperin of the Marron Firm as class counsel. On July 3, 2019, Judge Curiel denied Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment and on July 10, 2019 denied Defendant's Motion to Decertify the Class. Most recently, on January 31, 2020, the Honorable Judge Gonzalo P. Curiel granted Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement.

Esparza v. Smartpay Leasing, Inc., No. 3:17-cv-03421-WHA (N.D. Cal.)

On January 28, 2020, the Honorable William Alsup granted final approval a nation-wide certified class action settlement. The class included individuals who were texted on behalf of the defendant, using its vendor Twilio, Inc.'s platform after texting the word "STOP", between September 29, 2015 to June 13, 2017. The Court also appointed Plaintiff Shawn Esparza as class representative and

Ronald A. Marron, Alexis M. Wood and Kas L. Gallucci of the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron as class counsel. The settlement created a \$8.67 million dollar common fund.

Busch v. Bluestem Brands, Inc., No. 16-cv-0644(WMW/HB) (D. Minn.)

On October 11, 2019, the Honorable Judge Wilhelmina M. Wright granted final approval of a nationwide TCPA class action settlement and appointed the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron as co-lead class counsel. The settlement created a \$5.25 million common fund.

Medina v. Enhanced Recovery Company, LLC, No. 15-CV-14342-MARTINEZ-MAYNARD (S.D. Fla.)

On September 12, 2019, the Honorable Judge Jose E. Martinez granted final approval of a nationwide TCPA class action settlement and appointed the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron as co-lead class counsel. The settlement created a \$1.45 million common fund.

Littlejohn v. Ferrara Candy Company, No. 18-cv-0658-AJB-WVG (S.D. Cal.)

On June 17, 2019, the Honorable Anthony J. Battaglia granted final approval of a nationwide CLRA class action settlement stating “Class Counsel has fully and competently prosecuted all causes of action, claims, theories of liability, and remedies reasonably available to the Class Members.” *Littlejohn v. Ferrara Candy Co.*, No. 318CV00658AJBWVG, 2019 WL 2514720, at *3 (S.D. Cal. June 17, 2019).

Rwomwijhu v. SMX, LLC, No. BC634518 (L.A. Supr. Ct.)

On January 11, 2019, the Honorable Carolyn B. Kuhl granted final approval of case brought pursuant to under California’s Private Attorneys General Act where the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron served as co-lead class counsel.

Jackson v. Lang Pharma Nutrition, Inc., No. 37-2017-00028196-CU-BC-CTL (S.D. Supr. Ct.)

On December 20, 2018, the Honorable Joel R. Wohlfeil of the California Superior Court granted final approval to a nationwide labeling case settlement involving Co-q10 dietary supplements where the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron served as class counsel. The settlement created a fund in the amount of \$1,306,000 for which class members could elect to obtain cash or product vouchers.

Simms v. ExactTarget, LLC, No. 1-14-cv-00737-WTL-DKL (S.D. Ind.)

On October 19, 2018, the Honorable William T. Lawrence granted final approval of a nationwide TCPA class action settlement where the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron served as class counsel. The settlement created a \$6.25 million common fund.

Mancini v. The Western and Southern Life Insurance Company, et al., No. 16-cv-2830-LAB (WVG) (S.D. Cal)

On September 18, 2018, the Honorable Larry Alan Burns granted final approval of settlement in the amount of \$477,500 to resolve claims under California’s Private Attorneys General Act.

Gonzales v. Starside Security & Investigation, No. 37-2015-00036423-CU-OE-CTL (S.D. Supr. Ct.)

On September 7, 2018, the Honorable Gregory W. Pollack granted final approval of a wage and hour class action settlement and where the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron served as class counsel.

Mollicone v. Universal Handicraft, No. 17-21464-Civ-Scola (S.D. Fla.)

On August 10, 2018, the Honorable Robert N. Scola, Jr. granted final approval of class action settlement regarding false advertising claims of Adore cosmetics products marketed as containing a plant stem cell formula where in which the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron served as class counsel. In his Preliminary Approval Order, Judge Scola stated that the Marron Firm is “experienced and competent in the prosecution of complex class action litigation.” (Dkt. No. 120).

Mason v. M3 Financial Services, Inc., No. 15-cv-4194 (N.D. Ill.)

On June 29, 2018, the Honorable Andrea R. Wood granted final approval of a nationwide TCPA class action settlement in the amount of \$600,000 in which the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron served as co-lead class counsel.

Lucero v. Tommie Copper, Inc., No. 15 Civ. 3183 (AT) (S.D. N.Y.)

On May 4, 2018, the Honorable Analisa Torres granted final approval of a false advertising class settlement in the amount \$700,000. This case involves allegations of false and deceptive advertising and endorser liability for copper fabric compression clothing. On January 4, 2016, the Honorable Analisa Torres appointed the Marron firm as Interim Lead Class Counsel over the opposition and challenge of other plaintiffs’ counsel, noting that the Marron firm’s “detailed” complaint was “more specifically pleaded, . . . assert[ing] a more comprehensive set of theories . . . [and was] more factually developed.” *Potzner v. Tommie Copper Inc.*, No. 15 CIV. 3183 (AT), 2016 WL 304746, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 4, 2016). Judge Torres also noted that Mr. Marron and his firm’s attorneys had “substantial experience litigating complex consumer class actions, are familiar with the applicable law, and have the resources necessary to represent the class.” *Id.*

Gutierrez-Rodriguez v. R.M. Galicia, Inc., No. 16-cv-00182-H-BLM (S.D. Cal.)

On March 26, 2018, the Honorable Marilyn Huff granted final approval of a nationwide TCPA class action settlement which provided monetary relief in the amount of \$1,500,000, in addition to significant injunctive relief. (Dkt. 67.) The Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron were appointed class counsel. *Gutierrez-Rodriguez v. R.M. Galicia, Inc.*, No. 16-CV-00182-H-BLM, 2018 WL 1470198, at *2 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 26, 2018).

Thornton v. NCO Financial Systems, No. 16-CH-5780 (Cook County, Ill)

On October 31, 2017, the Honorable Tomas R. Allen of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, granted final approval to a nationwide TCPA class which created a common fund in the amount of \$8,000,000 and also provided for injunctive relief. The Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron served as co-lead class counsel.

Elkind v. Revlon Consumer Products Corporation, No. 14-cv-2484(JS)(AKT) (E.D.N.Y.)

On September 5, 2017, the Honorable A. Kathleen Tomlinson granted final approval of a nationwide false advertising class action settlement which challenged Revlon’s advertising of its “Age Defying with DNA Advantage” line of cosmetics in the amount of \$900,000, and significant injunctive relief. The Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron served as co-lead class counsel.

Sanders v. R.B.S. Citizen, N.A., No. 13-CV-03136-BAS (RBB) (S.D. Cal.)

On January 27, 2017 the Honorable Cynthia A. Bashant granted final approval of a nationwide TCPA class action settlement in the amount of \$4,551,267.50. *Sanders v. R.B.S. Citizen, N.A.*, No. 13-CV-03136-BAS (RBB), 2017 WL 363536 (S.D. Cal. Jan. 25, 2017). On July 1, 2016, the

Honorable Cynthia A. Bashant certified a nationwide class, for settlement purposes, of over one million persons receiving cell phone calls from Citizens made with an alleged automatic telephone dialing system. Dkt. 107. The Court appointed the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron as class counsel, noting they have “significant experience in handling class actions.” *Id.*

In re Leaf123 (Augustine v. Natrol), No. 14-114466 (U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware)

This action involved allegations of false and deceptive advertising of Senna Leaf tea products as dietary aids. Plaintiff alleged Senna Leaf is nothing more than a stimulant laxative which does not aid diets but hinders them. After a strong showing in the district court, and pursuant to other actions against the defendant manufacturer, the defendant filed for bankruptcy. The Marron Firm followed defendant to the federal bankruptcy court and retained bankruptcy counsel to assist. After a full day mediation before a retired federal jurist, and months of follow up negotiations, a settlement was reached. On August 7, 2015, in *In re Leaf123* (adversary proceeding of *Augustine v. Natrol*), the Honorable Brendan L. Shannon approved an injunctive relief-only settlement, finding it “fair, reasonable and adequate.”

Johnson v. Triple Leaf Tea, Inc., No. 3:14-cv-01570-MMC (N.D. Cal.)

An injunctive relief class action settlement, requiring manufacturer of senna leaf diet teas to re-label their products and remove ingredients based on alleged consumer confusion and harm, was filed in April 2014. The Marron firm served as class counsel and the Honorable Maxine M. Chesney, Senior U.S. District Court Judge granted final approval to a classwide settlement on November 16, 2015. *Johnson v. Triple Leaf Tea Inc.*, No. 3:14-CV-01570-MMC, 2015 WL 8943150, at *3, *5 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 16, 2015) (“Class Counsel has fully and competently prosecuted all causes of action, claims, theories of liability, and remedies reasonably available to the Class Members. The Court hereby affirms its appointment of the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron, APLC as Class Counsel Class Counsel and Defendant's counsel are highly experienced civil litigation attorneys with specialized knowledge in food and drug labeling issues, and complex class action litigation generally.”).

Perry v. Truong Giang Corp., Case No. BC58568 (L.A. Supr. Ct.)

Plaintiff alleged defendant’s Senna Leaf teas, advertised as diet aids, were falsely or misleadingly advertised to consumers. After an all-day mediation, a class wide settlement was reached. In granting final approval to the settlement on August 5, 2015, the Honorable Kenneth Freeman noted that class counsel’s hourly rates were “reasonable” and stated the Marron Firm’s lawyers used skill in securing the positive results achieved on behalf of the class. The court also noted “this case involved difficult legal issues because federal and state laws governing dietary supplements are a gray area, . . . the attorneys displayed skill in researching and settling this case, which provides a benefit not only to Class Members but to the public at large”

Carr v. Tadin, Inc., No. 3:12-cv-03040-JLS-JMA (S.D. Cal.)

An injunctive relief class action settlement, requiring manufacturer of diet teas and other health supplements to re-label their products to avoid alleged consumer confusion, was filed in January 2014 before the Honorable Janis L. Sammartino. The Marron Firm was appointed as class counsel and the classwide settlement was granted final approval on December 5, 2014.

Gallucci v. Boiron, Inc., No. 3:11-cv-2039-JAH (S.D. Cal.)

The firm was class counsel for consumers of homeopathic drug products in an action against Boiron, Inc., the largest foreign manufacturer of homeopathic products in the United States, involving allegations that Boiron's labeling and advertising were false and misleading. We obtained a nationwide settlement for the class which provided injunctive relief and restitution from a common fund of \$5 million. The settlement was upheld by the Ninth Circuit on February 21, 2015. The case also set an industry standard for homeopathic drug labeling. See www.homeopathicpharmacy.org/pdf/press/AAHP_Advertising_Guidelines.pdf.

Red v. Kraft Foods Global, Inc., No. 2:10-1028-GW (C.D. Cal)

The firm represented consumers in a class action against one of the world's largest food companies and was appointed lead counsel in a consolidated putative class action. The action has resulted in a permanent injunction barring the use of deceptive health claims on Nabisco packaged foods containing artificial trans fat. The Court has also granted an interim award of attorneys' fees.

Mason v. Heel, Inc., No. 3:12-cv-3056-GPC-KSC (S.D. Cal.)

Plaintiff alleged false and deceptive advertising of over-the-counter homeopathic drugs. On October 31, 2013, the Honorable Gonzalo P. Curiel granted preliminary approval to a nationwide class settlement of \$1 million in monetary relief for the class plus four significant forms of injunctive relief. Final approval was granted on March 13, 2014. See *Mason v. Heel, Inc.*, 3:12-CV-03056-GPC, 2014 WL 1664271 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 13, 2014).

Clark v. National Western Life Insurance Co., No. BC321681 (L.A. Co. Super. Ct.)

Class action involving allegations of elder financial abuse and fraud. After litigating the case for well over six years, including Mr. Marron being appointed co-lead class counsel, the case resulted in a settlement of approximately \$25 million for consumers.

In re Quaker Oats Labeling Litig., No. 5:10-cv-00502-RS (N.D. Cal.)

False and deceptive advertising case concerning Instant Oats, Chewy Granola Bars and Oatmeal To Go products, including use of partially hydrogenated vegetable oil while also representing the products as healthy snacks. An injunctive relief class action settlement was granted preliminary approval on February 2, 2014, with my firm being appointed Class Counsel. On July 29, 2014, the court granted the final approval of the settlement.

Nigh v. Humphreys Pharmacal, Inc., No. 3:12-cv-02714-MMA-DHB (S.D. Cal.)

Case involving allegations of false and deceptive advertising of homeopathic over-the-counter drugs as effective when they allegedly were not. On October 23, 2013, a global settlement was granted final approved by the Honorable Michael M. Anello, involving a common fund of \$1.4 million plus five significant forms of injunctive relief for consumers.

Burton v. Ganeden Biotech, Inc., No. 3:11-cv-01471-W-NLS (S.D. Cal.)

Action alleging false and deceptive advertising of a dietary probiotic supplement. On March 13, 2012, the Marron Firm settled the case for \$900,000 in a common fund plus injunctive relief in the form of labeling changes. Final approval was granted on October 5, 2012.

Hohenberg v. Ferrero U.S.A., Inc., No. 3:11-CV-00205-H-CAB (S.D. Cal.)

This case involved false and deceptive advertising of sugary food product as a healthy breakfast food

for children. After successfully defeating a motion to dismiss, *Hohenberg*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38471, at *6 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 22, 2011), the Honorable Marilyn Huff certified a class on November 15, 2011, resulting in a published decision, *In re Ferrero Litig.*, 278 F.R.D. 552 (S.D. Cal. 2011). A final settlement consisting of injunctive relief labeling and marketing changes, plus a \$550,000 common fund for monetary relief to the class was finally approved on July 9, 2012.

In re Qunol CoQ10 Liquid Labeling Litigation, No. 8:11-cv-173-DOC (C.D. Cal.)

This case involved false and deceptive consumer advertising of a dietary supplement. The Marron Firm was appointed class counsel and successfully defeated defendants' motion to decertify the class following the Ninth Circuit's decision in *Mazza v. Am. Honda Motor Co.*, 666 F.3d 581 (9th Cir. 2012). See *Bruno v. Eckhart Corp.*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 30873 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 6, 2012); see also *Bruno v. Quten Research Inst., LLC*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 132323 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 14, 2011). The case settled on the eve of trial (originally scheduled for October 2, 2012) for cash payments to the class and injunctive relief.

Iorio v. Asset Marketing Systems, Inc., No. 05cv00633-IEG-CAB (S.D. Cal.)

This action involved allegations of elder financial abuse and fraud. Mr. Marron was appointed class counsel on August 24, 2006 and the Court certified a class on July 25, 2006. After nearly six years of intensive litigation, including "challenges to the pleadings, class certification, class decertification, summary judgment, . . . motion to modify the class definition, motion to strike various remedies in the prayer for relief, and motion to decertify the Class' punitive damages claim," plus three petitions to the Ninth Circuit, attempting to challenge the Rule 23(f) class certification, a settlement valued at \$110 million was reached and approved on March 3, 2011. *Iorio*, Dkt. No. 480. In granting final approval to the settlement, the Court noted that class counsel were "highly experienced trial lawyers with specialized knowledge in insurance and annuity litigation, and complex class action litigation generally" and "capable of properly assessing the risks, expenses, and duration of continued litigation, including at trial and on appeal." *Id.* at 7:18-22.

Martinez v. Toll Brothers, No. 09-cv-00937-CDJ (E.D. Penn.)

Shareholder derivative case alleging breach of fiduciary duty, corporate waste, unjust enrichment and insider trading, filed derivatively on behalf of Toll Brothers and against individual corporate officers. Under a joint prosecution agreement, this action was litigated along with other consolidated and related actions against Toll Brothers in a case styled *Pfeiffer v. Toll Brothers*, No. 4140-VCL in the Delaware Chancery Court. After extensive litigation, the case settled in September 2012 for \$16.25 million in reimbursement to the corporation.

Peterman v. North American Co. for Life & Health Insurance, No. BC357194, (L.A. Co. Super. Ct.), involved allegations of elder financial abuse. This case was litigated for over four years and achieved a settlement of approximately \$60 million for consumers.

Vaccarino v. Midland Nat'l Life Ins. Co., No. 2:11-cv-05858-CAS (MANx) (C.D. Cal.)

This action involved allegations of elder financial abuse and fraud. On June 17, 2013, the Honorable Christina A. Snyder appointed the Marron Firm as Class Counsel, and on February 3, 2014, the Court certified a class of annuities purchasers under various theories of relief, including breach of contract and the UCL. On September 22, 2014, the court granted final approval to a class action settlement that achieved a settlement of approximately \$5.55 million for consumers, including *cy pres* relief to the Congress of California Seniors.

CURRENT AND NOTABLE APPOINTMENTS AS CLASS COUNSEL

Troy Lambert v. Nutraceutical Corp., Case No. 15-56423 (9th Cir.)

On September 15, 2017, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a class decertification order in a false advertising class action concerning a dietary supplement product. The Marron Firm successfully argued that the “full refund” measure of damages could be calculated on a class wide basis and that the model matched plaintiff’s theory of liability. “In a matter of first impression,” the Ninth Circuit also held that “the Rule 23(f) deadline is not jurisdictional” and that “equitable exceptions apply.” *Lambert v. Nutraceutical Corp.*, 870 F.3d 1170, 1174 (9th Cir. 2017). On February 1, 2018, the defendant filed a petition for a writ of certiorari before the United States Supreme Court. (Case No. 17-1094). On June 25, 2018, the Supreme Court granted the petition for a writ of certiorari.

Romero v. Securus Technologies, Inc. No. 3:16-cv-01283 (JM) (S.D. Cal.)

Plaintiffs Juan Romero, Kenneth Elliot, and Frank Tiscareno allege that Securus Technologies illegally recorded telephone conversations between inmates and their counsel. On November 21, 2018, the Honorable Jeffrey Miller granted class certification in part, appointing the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron as co-lead class counsel.

O’Shea v. American Solar Solutions, Inc., No. 3:14-cv-00894-L-RBB (S.D. Cal.)

On March 3, 2017, the Honorable M. James Lorenz certified a TCPA class of all individuals in the United States who were called on behalf of the defendant, using the ViciDial predictive dialers, on a cellular telephone number, between November 22, 2012 and August 22, 2015, and appointed Ronald A. Marron, Alexis Wood and Kas Gallucci as class counsel.

Reyes v. Education Credit Management Corporation, No. 3:15-cv-00628-BAS-AGS (S.D. Cal.)

Plaintiff A.J. Reyes brought suit against Education Credit Management Corporation under California’s Invasion of Privacy Act. Plaintiff alleges due to an error in the Defendant’s phone system, inbound calls to ECMC were being recorded without their consent. On September 20, 2017, the Honorable Cynthia Bashant certified a class of individuals who made inbound calls to lines with the faulty setting, as well as granted certification of plaintiff’s demand for injunctive relief and monetary damages. The Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron was appointed as class counsel. Currently remanded back from 9th Circuit after vacating Class Certification, this case is back at the District Court for further proceedings.

Robbins v. Gencor Nutrients, Inc., No. 16AC-CC00366 (Circuit Court, Cole Cty. Mo.)

On May 14, 2018, the Honorable Jon E. Beetem granted preliminary approval of a nationwide false advertising class action settlement concerning testosterone boosting supplements and appointed the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron as co-lead class counsel.

Allen v. Hyland’s, Inc., No. 12-CV-1150 DMG (MANx) (C.D. Cal.)

Nationwide class of consumers certified for false and deceptive advertising against largest U.S.-based manufacturer of homeopathic drugs, involving ten over-the-counter homeopathic drug products. A nationwide class was certified after two years of vigorous litigation, including Marron firm counsel surviving against two motions to dismiss, a motion for judgment on the pleadings, and a motion to strike punitive damages. *See* 300 F.R.D. 643 (C.D. Cal. 2014). Following a thirteen-day

jury trial before the Honorable Judge Dolly M. Gee, a verdict was returned in favor of Hyland's. The Marron Firm timely appealed. On May 15, 2019, the Ninth Circuit reversed the judgment in part holding that "the jury's narrow findings as to deceptive advertising do not resolve [Plaintiffs'] broader unfair practices theory" and that "the district court must engage in fact-finding to resolve [the UCL claim], and erred in granting judgment to Hyland's without doing so." *Allen v. Hylands, Inc.*, No. 17-56184, 2018 WL 2142843, at *3 (9th Cir. May 15, 2019).

Allen v. Similasan Corp., No. 12-cv-376 BAS (JLB) (S.D. Cal.)

A California class of consumers alleging false and deceptive advertising of six homeopathic drugs was certified by the Honorable Cynthia A. Bashant on March 30, 2015, with the Court noting that the firm was experienced and competent to prosecute the matter on behalf of the Class. Judge Bashant denied summary judgment on the class' claims that the drug products were not effective, as advertised, and certified claims under California's Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Unfair Competition Law, False Advertising Law, breach of express and implied warranty, and violation of the federal Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act.

OTHER NOTABLE CASES

In re Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company Marketing & Sales Practices Litig., No. 1:16-md-02695-JB-LF (D.N.M.)

On May 24, 2016, Ronald A. Marron was appointed to the Executive Committee in a multidistrict litigation labeling case. (Dkt. 24.)

Henderson v. The J.M. Smucker Company, No. 2:10-cv-4524-GHK (C.D. Cal.)

This action was the catalyst forcing the defendant to reformulate a children's frozen food production to remove trans-fat. On June 19, 2013, the Honorable George H. King held the firm's client was a prevailing Private Attorney General and entitled to her costs and attorneys' fees.

NINTH CIRCUIT CASES

Shyriaa Henderson v. United States Aid Funds, Inc., Case No. 17-55373 (9th Cir.)

On March 22, 2019, the Ninth Circuit reversed the District Court's order granting summary judgment in favor of Defendant, and remanded for further proceedings in a class action where debt collectors acting on behalf of defendant were in violation of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA). The Ninth Circuit found that a reasonable jury could hold Defendant vicariously liable for the alleged TCPA violations by debt collectors.

John Sandoval v. Pharmicare US, Inc., Case No. 16-56301 (9th Cir.)

On April 5, 2016, the Ninth Circuit reversed, in part, the District Court's order granting summary judgment in a false advertising class action concerning an aphrodisiac dietary supplement called "IntenseX" The Marron Firm successfully argued that statements on the intensex.com website showed that the defendant failed to obtain approval of IntenseX as an OTC aphrodisiac drug, thus creating a basis for liability under California's Unfair Competition Law.

Reid v. Johnson & Johnson, Case No. 12-56726 (9th Cir.)

On March 13, 2015, the Ninth Circuit reversed, in part, the District Court's order granting the defendant's motion to dismiss in a false advertising class action concerning Benecol spread that was

allegedly falsely advertised as containing “No Trans Fat.” The Marron Firm successfully argued that the plaintiff’s claims are not preempted by the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act. *Reid v. Johnson & Johnson*, 780 F.3d 952, 964 (9th Cir. 2015).