

CIVIL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF ORLEANS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

NO: 2024-08559

JENNA COMBEL
VERSUS

FILED
2024 SEP 18 PM 2:33
CIVIL DISTRICT COURT
SECTION 7
DIVISION
E

GREAT INTERNATIONAL SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT CO., LTD., GALAXY GAS, LLC, RA SHOP #6, LLC, RA SHOP 8, LLC, RA SHOP 14, LLC, RA SHOP, LLC D/B/A RA SHOP TOULOUSE, ORLEANS CENTER MARKET, LLC, MR BINKY'S, INC. D/B/A MR. BINKY'S SUPERSTORE, MKM GROUP, LLC d/b/a SMOKE-N-STYLE, MAWAAL, LLC D/B/A VIP VAPES & PHONES, 420 VAPE & SMOKE SHOP, LLC, AL-AKABER CO. MOLASSES DISTRIBUTION & TRADING, LLC D/B/A 420 VAPE & SMOKE SHOP, THE MUSHROOM, INC., DAHAB ENTERPRISES, LLC D/B/A UP IN SMOKE, CLOUD 9 NOLA, LLC, THE HERB IMPORT CO., WEST METAIRIE DISCOUNT ZONE, LLC, G&A MART, LLC D/B/A 420 SMOKE & SPIRIT SHOP, TRIPLE A QUICK STOP, INC. D/B/A TRIPLE A FOOD MART, and MUNCHIES SMOKE SHOP, LLC

FILED: _____ DEPUTY CLERK: 9/18/2024 2:47:00 PM

Receipt Number 982073
Register CDC Cash Register 1

PETITION FOR DAMAGES

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Jenna Combel, who files the

following Petition for Damages, and in support thereof, states the following:

Amount Received \$ 2766.50
PLAINTIFF Balance Due \$ 0.00
Over Payment \$ 0.00

1. Payment/Transaction Lbl
Check # 324670 \$2766.50

The Plaintiff herein is:

(a) Jenna Combel, a person of the full age of majority and domiciled in the Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana.

DEFENDANTS

Item	Charged	Paid	Bal
Petition for Damages	\$444.50	\$444.50	\$0.00
Judicial College	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.00
Sealing Fund Fee	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Indigent Legal Fee	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
JSC	\$30.50	\$30.50	\$0.00
Additional Defendant	\$2256.00	\$2256.00	\$0.00

Named Defendants (collectively the "Defendants") herein are as follows:

(a) Great International Supply Chain Management Co., Ltd, (hereinafter "Great International") who, upon information, knowledge and belief, is a foreign corporation authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana, with its principal place of business located at Room 13,27/F, Ho King Commercial Centre, 2-16 FA Yuen Street, Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong;

(b) Galaxy Gas, LLC, (hereinafter "Galaxy Gas") who, upon information, knowledge and belief, is a foreign limited liability company, authorized to do and doing business

VERIFIED
9/19/24
EXHIBIT
A

in the State of Louisiana, with its principal place of business located at P.O. Box 2630, Kennesaw, GA 30156;

- (c) **Ra Shop #6, LLC**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (d) **Ra Shop 8, LLC**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (e) **Ra Shop 14, LLC**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (f) **Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (g) **Orleans Center Market, LLC**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (h) **Mr. Binky's, Inc., d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore**, a domestic corporation authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (i) **MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (j) **Mawaal, LLC, d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (k) **420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (l) **Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC, d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (m) **The Mushroom, Inc.**, a domestic corporation authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (n) **Dahab Enterprises, LLC, d/b/a Up In Smoke**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (o) **Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;

- (p) **The Herb Import Co.**, a domestic corporation authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (q) **West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (r) **G&A Mart, LLC, d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (s) **Triple A Quick Stop, Inc., d/b/a Triple A Food Mart**, a domestic corporation authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (t) **Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana;
- (u) **MKM Group, LLC**, a domestic limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3.

The Court, as a court of general jurisdiction, has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter. Multiple Defendants are domestic corporations or limited liability companies, with their principal place of business and registered offices in the State of Louisiana. This court has personal jurisdiction over all Defendants, including any non-resident Defendants, based on the following, non-exclusive, factors:

- (a) Transacting business in the State of Louisiana;
- (b) Contracting to supply services or things in the State of Louisiana;
- (c) Causing serious tortious injury by act(s) or omission(s) occurring within the State of Louisiana;
- (d) Causing serious and tortious injury in the State of Louisiana by act(s) or omission(s) committed outside the State of Louisiana while regularly doing business and engaging in other persistent courses of conduct and deriving substantial revenue from goods and services rendered and/or provided within the State of Louisiana; and/or

(e) Manufacturing of a product that caused damage or injury in Louisiana with the anticipation that such a product would be sold and/or used in this state when placed into the stream of commerce by Defendants.

4.

Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to La. Code Civ. Proc. art 42, 73, and 74.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

I. NITROUS OXIDE, OR “WHIPPETS”: A HARMFUL AND ADDICTIVE DRUG

5.

Nitrous oxide, commonly known as laughing gas, is a colorless, odorless, non-flammable gas.

6.

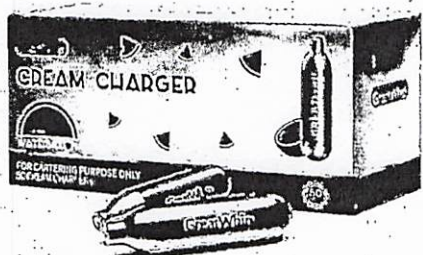
Nitrous oxide is manufactured and sold for various purposes, including as a whipping propellant for food grade aerosols.

7.

However, it is well known to the public, and in particular to Defendants, that nitrous oxide is often sold and inhaled as a drug by users to obtain a high. When used in this manner, nitrous oxide is commonly referred to as whippets, poppers, or laughing gas.

8.

Nitrous oxide is sold in cannisters, called chargers, which come in various shapes and sizes. These chargers, or the packaging they come in, are brightly colored and come in flavors such as watermelon to attract young users. Examples of these chargers are shown below:



9.

In order to inhale the nitrous oxide, users will use a “cracker” to puncture the charger and inhale the nitrous oxide. In some cases, nitrous oxide chargers are used to fill balloons, which are then inhaled from. In other cases, manufacturers or sellers, such as Defendants in this case, will sell the chargers with an accompanying mouthpiece to use when inhaling the nitrous oxide.

10.

Unlike medical grade nitrous oxide, food-grade nitrous oxide is not combined with oxygen, resulting in higher concentrations of pure nitrous oxide. Inhalation of high concentrations of nitrous oxide deprives the body of oxygen. It can result in euphoric, dissociated, and out-of-body experiences. It causes the user to get very dizzy, light-headed, and giggly. The high is brief but very intense.

11.

However, depriving the brain of oxygen can also cause nerve damage, unconsciousness, and even death. Nitrous oxide side effects include, but are not limited to, neurological damage, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, and B-12 deficiency, which can result in numbness in fingers and toes, lung collapse, blood vessel hemorrhage in the lungs, heart attacks, seizures, comas, and asphyxiation. The repeated use of nitrous oxide can cause serious and permanent physical and neurological injuries. Nitrous oxide has been tied to innumerable injuries and deaths.

12.

Nitrous oxide is addictive. There are millions of users across the United States.

13.

Nitrous oxide is particularly dangerous and insidious because, until recently, it was made readily available to users through a distribution chain maintained by Defendants.

II. AN ILLICIT NITROUS OXIDE DISTRIBUTION RING ORCHESTRATED BY DEFENDANTS.

14.

Great International has, for several years, manufactured, distributed and sold nitrous oxide across the United States, including the sale of millions of chargers into Louisiana. Great International manufactures, distributes, and sells nitrous oxide under the “GreatWhip” brand

name.

15.

Upon information and belief, Great International has known about the illicit market for its nitrous oxide chargers since the early 2000s. And since that time, it has improperly and unethically sought to exploit this illicit market through their marketing and by making sales to retailers, including tobacco stores and head shops that have no plausible reason to sell food products, but rather sell only smoke inhalation products and drug paraphernalia. This includes making dozens of sales to Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC.

16.

Galaxy Gas has manufactured, distributed and sold nitrous oxide across the United States, including the sale of millions of chargers into Louisiana. Galaxy Gas manufacturers, distributes, and sells nitrous oxide under the "Galaxy Gas" brand name.

17.

For years, Galaxy Gas has known about the illicit market for its nitrous oxide chargers. And since that time, it has improperly and unethically sought to exploit this illicit market through their marketing and by making sales to retailers, including tobacco stores and head shops that have no plausible reason to sell food products, but rather sell only smoke inhalation products and drug paraphernalia. This includes making dozens of sales to Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc.,

Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC.

18.

Defendants, Great International and/or Galaxy Gas, knew or should have known that their products, GreatWhip and Galaxy Gas, were being used by purchasers in order to get high. This knowledge is shown through Great International and Galaxy Gas' volume of sales to gas stations and head shops, their packaging and marketing of their products, and sale of their products with accessories to make it easier for purchasers to inhale gas. Great International and Galaxy Gas were aware of the harm that is caused in the community by these unethical practices, including the fact that individuals who purchase its nitrous oxide from a head shop or smoke shop often become addicted with disastrous consequences.

19.

Defendants, Great International and/or Galaxy Gas, had actual knowledge that multiple states' legislatures and attorney generals have attempted to close down this illicit nitrous oxide drug ring by seeking to prohibit sales of nitrous oxide by smoke shops and head shops, like Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC.

20.

Defendants, Great International and/or Galaxy Gas, knowing that such regulation would eat into its profits, hired lobbyists and fought against such legislative measures, and has continued to pour nitrous oxide into Louisiana through head shops. This includes selling, directly and indirectly, nitrous oxide to Defendants Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's

Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC.

21.

On August 1, 2024, pursuant to La. R.S. 40:989, the State of Louisiana became the first State to prohibit the public retail sale of nitrous oxide in stores for recreational use.

22.

Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC are popular head shops or gas stations located in Orleans Parish, Jefferson Parish and/or St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana.

23.

Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC sell tobacco products and items that can only be fairly characterized as drug paraphernalia, including pipes, bongs, one-hitters, roach clips, dabs, and drug detox kits.

24.

Despite having actual knowledge of the nature of Defendants' Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC stores, and knowing that said Defendants were going to sell nitrous oxide to the public for use as a recreational drug, Defendants Great International and/or Galaxy Gas, sold outrageous quantities of nitrous oxide chargers directly to Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC.

25.

By the sheer volume of sales, Defendants, Great International and/or Galaxy Gas, should have known Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC were distributing its nitrous oxide as a recreational drug. Great International

and/or Galaxy Gas continued to supply the aforementioned Defendants with nitrous oxide anyway.

26.

At all times relevant, Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC knew about the illicit market for nitrous oxide, and that its customer base would use, and be interested in, nitrous oxide as an illicit drug. Despite this knowledge, and the harm it could cause its patrons, and third parties like Jenna Combel, the aforementioned Defendants chose to sell nitrous oxide to those it knew, or should have known, were purchasing the nitrous oxide to use as an illicit drug, including Plaintiff Jenna Combel.

27.

Plaintiff, Jenna Combel, was, upon information and belief, addicted to nitrous oxide manufactured, distributed and sold by Defendants, Great International and Galaxy Gas, through stores run by Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC.

28.

Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore,

MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC sold nitrous oxide to Jenna Combel and others, though it knew or should have known that the purchasers intended to inhale the nitrous oxide for recreational use.

29.

Together, Defendants, Great International, Galaxy Gas, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC with deliberate and flagrant disregard for the rights of others, have operated what amounts to a drug distribution ring selling nitrous oxide. Great International serves as the supplier and manufacturer. Galaxy Gas serves as the supplier and manufacturer. Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC serve as the dealers. Together, Defendants sold a drug they know is addictive and prone to abuse to individuals they know are using their product as a recreational drug. Defendants did so with an explicit profit motive, with a deliberate and flagrant disregard for the consequences.

III. JENNA COMBEL'S USE OF NITROUS OXIDE AND ITS SEVERE CONSEQUENCES.

30.

Jenna Combel first experimented with nitrous oxide in 2019, at the age of 19. Jenna did not know the full extent of the danger associated with the use of nitrous oxide, assuming a product that could be purchased at a gas station or head shop could not cause severe damage to her.

31.

What began as something she experimented with turned into a crippling addiction. Over the next four years, Jenna use of nitrous oxide increased to the point where it was almost continuous. She spent significant sums of money to feed her addiction, purchasing GreatWhip and Galaxy Gas branded nitrous oxide cannisters from Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC, which profited Defendants immensely.

32.

On November 6, 2023, Jenna was rushed to the hospital. She could not speak coherently, and she was unable to move her arms and legs. She was diagnosed with a vitamin B12 deficiency due to use of nitrous oxide, which was causing her paralysis. To this day, Jenna remains unable to walk properly, and has nerve damage and changes to the white matter of her brain from the use of nitrous oxide.

COUNT I – PRODUCTS LIABILITY

(Applies to Defendants Great International and Galaxy Gas)

33.

Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as though fully set forth herein.

34.

At all times relevant herein, Defendants Great International and Galaxy Gas manufactured and sold nitrous oxide chargers, which Defendants Great International and Galaxy

Gas then distributed and sold.

35.

The nitrous oxide cannisters manufactured and sold by Great International and Galaxy Gas were unreasonably dangerous due to a lack of adequate warning. Defendants' products contain a brief warning stating only that the nitrous oxide should not be inhaled. However, Defendants fail to warn users of any consequences that could arise from inhaling nitrous oxide. Defendants' failure to warn users about the nature and gravity of the danger, including the fact that inhalation could result in paralysis or death, renders the warning inadequate. *See* La. R.S. 9:2800.57. The Defendants also do not warn users of their product about the addictive nature of nitrous oxide use. Further, the cost to add additional warnings about the potential severe consequences of nitrous oxide inhalation is minimal making their omission inexcusable.

36.

Additionally, Defendants use colorful designs on the packaging of their products. The warnings Defendants to give are not readily discernable given the colorful packaging, which further adds to their inadequacy.

37.

Had Jenna Combel been adequately warned by Defendants of the potential for addiction and severe injury, such as paralysis, she would not have inhaled the nitrous oxide manufactured by Defendants.

38.

The recreational inhalation of nitrous oxide is a reasonably anticipated use of Defendants' products. Defendants distributed and sold their product to gas stations, head shops, and other retailers who had no purpose for selling nitrous oxide other than for recreational use. Defendants' volume of sales via these retailers demonstrates Defendants had actual knowledge that people were using their product to inhale nitrous oxide recreationally. Defendants also designed their product for recreational use. Defendants sold their chargers in various sizes, including a large cannister that can have no other purpose besides inhalation by individuals. Finally, Defendants' inclusion of accessories with their product that enable inhalation by users shows that Jenna Combel's use was reasonably anticipated.

COUNT II - NEGLIGENCE

(Applies to Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC)

39.

Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as though fully set forth herein.

40.

At all times relevant, Defendants, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC (collectively referred to as "Retailer Defendants") owed the public, including Plaintiff, a duty to exercise reasonable care in marketing, sale, distribution, and placing in the stream of commerce nitrous oxide chargers and paraphernalia, including the GreatWhip and Galaxy Gas branded nitrous oxide chargers and paraphernalia at issue in this lawsuit.

41.

Retailer Defendants sold and distributed nitrous oxide chargers and drug paraphernalia in the regular course of its business to Plaintiff.

42.

The Retailer Defendants knew or should have known that Plaintiff, and others like her, were purchasing nitrous oxide chargers for recreational use, but sold it to them anyway. The Retailer Defendants also knew or should have known of the dangers associated with nitrous oxide abuse, but did not warn Plaintiff or others similarly situated about the risks. Instead, the Retailer Defendants chose to continue supplying customers with a dangerous product to make money for themselves.

43.

The Retailer Defendants failed to exercise ordinary care thereby breaching its duty to Plaintiff and others in one or more of the following respects:

- a. Defendants negligently and carelessly dispensed nitrous oxide chargers;
- b. Defendants negligently and carelessly dispensed nitrous oxide chargers when it knew or had reason to know that they were going to be used as a recreational drug;
- c. Defendants negligently and carelessly dispensed nitrous oxide chargers with reckless disregard as to whether the substance was likely to be consumed by the person to whom it is supplied as a recreational drug;
- d. Defendants negligently and carelessly sold nitrous oxide and drug paraphernalia for recreational use;
- e. Defendants negligently and carelessly distributed nitrous oxide chargers and drug paraphernalia;
- f. Defendants negligently and carelessly distributed nitrous oxide chargers abreast drug paraphernalia, promoting and encouraging nitrous oxide abuse;
- g. Defendants negligently and carelessly purchased nitrous oxide chargers and paraphernalia with the intent to market and distribute these items for illicit and recreational purposes;
- h. Defendants negligently and carelessly failed to institute and maintain adequate policies and procedures for ensuring the nitrous oxide chargers it sold were not utilized for illicit purposes;
- i. Defendants negligently and carelessly promoted and encouraged abuse of nitrous oxide;
- j. Defendants negligently and carelessly marketed, distributed, and/or sold defectively designed and unreasonably dangerous nitrous oxide containers;
- k. Defendants negligently and carelessly marketed, distributed, and/or sold nitrous oxide containers with labels that are false and misleading;
- l. Defendants negligently and carelessly failed to adequately warn, instruct, or direct consumers not to inhale or consume nitrous oxide; and
- m. Such further negligence as discovery in the evidence will reveal.

44.

As a direct and proximate result of the negligence of the Retailer Defendants, Plaintiff Jenna Combel sustained serious bodily injuries.

DAMAGES

45.

As a direct and proximate cause of Defendants' negligence and violations of the Louisiana Products Liability Act, Plaintiff has sustained substantial damages. Defendants herein are jointly and *in solido* liable and indebted unto Plaintiff for such damages as are reasonable in the premises, including:

- a. Past and future pain and suffering;
- b. Past and future loss of enjoyment of life;
- c. Past and future mental anguish;
- d. Past and future loss of earning capacity;
- e. Past and future medical costs;
- f. Permanent disability;
- g. Past and future emotional distress;
- h. All general damages in an amount to be determined according to proof at the time of trial;
- i. All special damages including, but not limited to, medical expenses in an amount to be determined according to proof at the time of trial;
- j. Judicial interest from date of judicial demand until judgment is paid;
- k. Cost of the suit herein incurred;
- l. Attorneys fees;
- m. For such other and further relief that the Court may deem just and proper.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that Defendants be duly cited and served with a copy of this Petition and, after all due proceedings are had, there be a judgment rendered herein in favor of Plaintiff, Jenna Combel, and against the Defendants, Great International Supply Chain Management Co., LLC, Galaxy Gas, LLC, Ra Shop #6, LLC, Ra Shop 8, LLC, Ra Shop 14, LLC, Ra Shop, LLC d/b/a Ra Shop Toulouse, Orleans Center Market, LLC, Mr. Binky's d/b/a Mr. Binky's Superstore, MKM Group, LLC d/b/a Smoke-N-Style, Mawaal, LLC d/b/a VIP Vapes & Phones, 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, LLC, Al-Akaber Co. Molasses Distribution & Trading, LLC d/b/a 420 Vape & Smoke Shop, The Mushroom, Inc., Dahab Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Up In Smoke, Cloud 9 NOLA, LLC, The Herb Import Co., West Metairie Discount Zone, LLC, G&A Mart, LLC

d/b/a 420 Smoke & Spirit Shop, Triple A Quick Stop, Inc. d/b/a Triple A Food Mart and/or Munchies Smoke Shop, LLC, jointly and *in solido* in amounts as are reasonable in the premises, together with legal interest thereon from date of judicial demand until paid, attorney's fees, and for all costs of these proceedings together with legal interest thereon from date of judicial demand, until paid, and for all costs of these proceedings.

Petitioner further prays for all general and equitable relief as the Court deems fit.

Respectfully submitted,

HUBER THOMAS, LLP



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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS

PLEASE SERVE:

Via Service in accordance with International Law

GREAT INTERNATIONAL SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT CO., LTD

Room 13,27/F

Ho King Commercial Centre

2-16 FA Yuen Street

Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong, China

Via Long Arm Statute R.S. 13:3204

GALAXY GAS, LLC

Through its Registered Agent

2985 Gordy Parkway, First Floor

Marietta, GA 30066

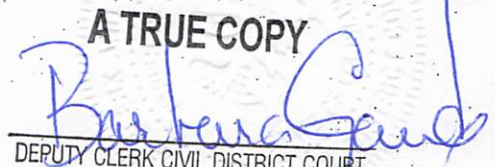
RA SHOP #6 LLC

Through its Registered Agent

Gary Louis Bettencourt

20 Falcon Dr.

Mandeville, LA 70471

A TRUE COPY

DEPUTY CLERK CIVIL DISTRICT COURT
PARISH OF ORLEANS
STATE OF LA

Services continued on following page

RA SHOP 8 LLC

Through its Registered Agent
Gary Louis Bettencourt
629 Lotus Dr. North
Mandeville, LA 70471

RA SHOP 14 LLC

Through its Registered Agent
Gary Louis Bettencourt
629 Lotus Dr. North
Mandeville, LA 70471

RA SHOP, LLC

Through its Registered Agent
Gary Louis Bettencourt
20 Falcon Dr.
Mandeville, LA 70471

ORLEANS CENTER MARKET, LLC

Through its Registered Agent
Anwar R. Hindi
2709 Orleans Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70119

MR. BINKY'S, INC.

Through its Registered Agent
Dudley Geigerman, III
96 W. 27th St.
Kenner, LA 70062

MAWAAL, LLC

Through its Registered Agent
Waleed Harb
2865 Glenbrook Dr.
Gretna, LA 70056

420 VAPE & SMOKE SHOP, LLC

Through its Registered Agent
Gaith Younis
4345 Williams Blvd., Suite G
Kenner, LA 70065

AL-AKABER CO. MOLASSES DISTRIBUTING & TRADING, LLC

Through its Registered Agent
Ahmed Jamal Al-Khalaileh
2601 Lexington Ave., Suite C
Kenner, LA 70062

THE MUSHROOM, INC.

Through its Registered Agent
Christopher Hummel
3912 Taft Pk.
Metairie, LA 70002

Services continued on following page

DAHAB ENTERPRISES, LLC – Up in Smoke

Through its Registered Agent

Nizar Dahab

861 E. Lexington Ave.

Gretna, LA 70056

CLOUD 9 NOLA, LLC

Through its Registered Agent

Sheba Logan

1116 Stumpf Blvd.

Gretna, LA 70053

THE HERB IMPORT CO.

Through its Registered Agent

Gerald R. Daugherty

6343 West End Blvd.

New Orleans, LA 70124

WEST METAIRIE DISCOUNT ZONE, LLC

Through its Registered Agent

Omar Salha

1900 W. Esplanade Ave., Suite 202

Kenner, LA 70065

G&A MART, LLC

Through its registered agent

Gaith Younis

4006 W. Louisiana State Dr.

Kenner, LA 70065

TRIPLE A QUICK STOP, INC.

Through its Registered Agent

Aiban Ayash

3712 Blanchard Dr.

Chalmette, LA 70043

MUNCHIES SMOKE SHOP, LLC

Through its Registered Agent

Hani Monem

726 Bellemeade Blvd.

Gretna, LA 70056

MKM GROUP, LLC

Through its registered agent:

Sara Nazir

1801 Concord Avenue

Metairie, LA 70003