

Behram V. Parekh, State Bar #180361
WISNER BAUM LLP
11111 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 1750
Los Angeles, CA 90025
Telephone: (310) 207-3233
Facsimile: (310) 820-7444
bparekh@wisnerbaum.com

Counsel for Plaintiff

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

RICHARD LUTKE,

Plaintiff,

v.

NEVRO CORPORATION, GLOBUS
MEDICAL, INC., UNITED STATES FOOD
& DRUG ADMINISTRATION,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:26-cv-2513

**COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND
DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE
RELIEF**

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

1 Plaintiff **RICHARD LUTKE** (“Plaintiff”) by and through undersigned counsel, and for
2 their Complaint against Defendants **NEVRO CORPORATION, GLOBUS MEDICAL, INC.,**
3 and the **UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION** seeking damages as
4 well as declaratory and injunctive relief (the “Action”) as follows:

5 **INTRODUCTION**

6 This is a product liability and administrative law action involving injuries sustained by
7 Plaintiff following the implantation and failure of a spinal cord stimulator (SCS) system designed,
8 manufactured, and marketed by Defendant Nevro Corporation. The devices were implanted in
9 Plaintiff’s body as a purported treatment for chronic pain, but they failed to perform as promised
10 and instead caused serious harm.

11 The original Nevro SCS device received Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval
12 under the PMA process in 2015. Since that time, however, the device has been fundamentally
13 altered through hundreds of PMA supplements, modifying its battery chemistry, firmware,
14 waveform control, leads, and user interface, without the benefit of a new PMA or any renewed
15 clinical safety validation.

16 These cumulative changes, approved outside public view, transformed the device’s
17 mechanism of action, performance characteristics, and risk profile. Nevro failed to disclose these
18 material changes to patients, physicians, or regulators. As a result, Plaintiff was implanted with a
19 device that was materially different from what had been tested and originally approved by the
20 FDA. Plaintiff suffered painful neurologic symptoms, worsening pain symptoms, and potentially
21 permanent injuries.

22 Plaintiff brings this Action under California, Pennsylvania, and Montana law, and the
23 federal Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”), asserting both traditional product liability and
24 statutory claims. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages for their injuries and equitable relief
25 requiring the FDA to fulfill its statutory duties and restore integrity to the PMA process.

26 //

27 //

1 **PARTIES**

2 **I. PLAINTIFFS**

3 1. **Plaintiff** Richard Lutke is a resident and citizen of the State of Montana. At the time
4 this Complaint is filed, Plaintiff resides in Yellowstone County, MT. The devices at issue were
5 implanted in Plaintiff in Montana. Plaintiff has received medical treatment related to the device in
6 Montana. Plaintiff Richard Lutke had their Nevro SCS permanent device implanted in October 23,
7 2019.

8 **II. DEFENDANTS**

9 2. **Defendant** Nevro Corporation (hereinafter “Nevro”), now is, and at all times
10 relevant to this action was, a Delaware Corporation which now claims on the California Secretary
11 of State’s website that its principal place of business and headquarters are in the State of
12 Pennsylvania. At the time that Nevro sold its SCS system to Plaintiff, its headquarters were located
13 at 1800 Bridge Parkway, Redwood City, California and Nevro, however, still maintains on its
14 website promoting its HFX SCS system that it is headquartered in Redwood City, California.

15 3. **Defendant** Globus Medical, Inc. (hereinafter “Globus”) is a Delaware corporation
16 which has its principal place of business in the State of Pennsylvania. On February 6, 2025, Globus
17 and Nevro entered into an agreement whereby Globus acquired Nevro, making Nevro a wholly
18 owned subsidiary of Globus. The terms of the merger agreement include the assumption by Globus
19 of, *inter alia*, Nevro’s liabilities for warranty claims.

20 4. **Defendant** the United States Food and Drug Administration is an agency of the
21 United States government within the Department of Health and Human Services responsible for
22 regulating medical devices under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. § 301 *et*
23 *seq.*, and its implementing regulations. The FDA is named solely in its official capacity for purposes
24 of claims brought under the Administrative Procedures Act (“APA”), 5 U.S.C. § 701-706.

25 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

26 5. *Subject Matter Jurisdiction.* This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over
27 Plaintiff’s claims against the FDA pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 5 U.S.C. § 702. This Court has
28

1 supplemental jurisdiction over related state-law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 and diversity
2 jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332, as the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000 and the parties
3 are citizens of different states.

4 6. This Court also has federal question jurisdiction over Plaintiff's claims brought
5 under the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. § 701 et seq., pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, as
6 those claims arise under the laws of the United States.

7 7. *Personal Jurisdiction.* Nevro and Globus Medical, Inc. have conducted business
8 and derived substantial revenue from within California and have sufficient minimum contacts and
9 have purposefully availed themselves of the California Market so as to render the exercise of
10 jurisdiction over it by the California courts consistent with the traditional notions of fair play and
11 substantial justice. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant as Defendant conducted
12 such business within the State including acts which caused or contributed to Plaintiff's injuries.

13 8. *Venue.* Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and 18
14 U.S.C. §1965 (a) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim
15 occurred in this District and each Defendant transacts business affairs and conducts activity that
16 gave rise to the claim of relief in this District. Venue is also appropriate with respect to the FDA
17 under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e)(1) because a substantial part of the events giving rise to the APA claims
18 occurred in this District.

19 9. At all relevant times, Nevro negligently and recklessly conveyed false and
20 misleading information concerning the SCS implants and concealed the risks of serious adverse
21 events associated with the SCS implants from Plaintiff, Plaintiff's healthcare providers, the FDA
22 and the public. But for Nevro's actions, Plaintiff would not have suffered the severe injuries and
23 harms that have resulted from the implantation of the SCS implant into Plaintiff's body.

24 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

25 **III. APPLICABLE LAW AND CHOICE OF LAW CONSIDERATIONS**

26 10. This Action arises under both federal and state law. Plaintiff brings federal claims
27 against the United States Food and Drug Administration under the Administrative Procedure Act
28

1 (“APA”), 5 U.S.C. §§ 701–706, and state-law claims against Nevro for personal injuries sustained
2 as a result of its defective spinal cord stimulator system, which was designed, regulated, and
3 marketed from within this District.

4 11. Plaintiff’s injuries occurred in Montana. Plaintiff’s product liability and personal
5 injury claims arise under applicable state law, including California, Pennsylvania, and Montana law
6 and any other law determined by the Court’s choice-of-law analysis. Federal law is referenced
7 solely to identify parallel safety duties applicable to the device.

8 12. However, significant aspects of the design, manufacture, regulatory strategy, and
9 labeling of the device occurred within the State of California and the State of Pennsylvania. Nevro,
10 up until it was acquired by Globus, was headquartered in Redwood City, California, and despite
11 formal change to its headquarters address with the California Secretary of State, continues to
12 maintain to the public, on its website promoting its HFX SCS device, that its headquarters are in
13 Redwood City, California. *See*, <https://www.nevrohfx.com/about/about-us/> visited on March 20,
14 2026 (“Nevro is a medical device company headquartered in Redwood City, California that has the
15 goal of helping more people living with chronic pain achieve lasting relief.”) Defendant Globus is
16 headquartered in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, and the same address for Globus’
17 headquarters is now Nevro’s headquarters address as listed with the California Secretary of State.

18 13. Montana law may govern Plaintiff’s personal injury claim, however, to the extent
19 this action concerns Nevro’s regulatory decisions, FDA submissions, and corporate conduct
20 occurring in California and Pennsylvania, Plaintiff also invokes California and Pennsylvania law in
21 the alternative for claims that arise from Nevro’s forum-based behavior.

22 14. California applies a functional choice-of-law analysis that considers the place where
23 the injury occurred, the place where the conduct causing the injury occurred, the domicile and
24 residence of the parties, and the center of the relationship. *See McCann v. Foster Wheeler*, 225 P.3d
25 516 (2010); Restatement (Second) of Conflict of Laws § 6.

26 15. Because this action involves conduct undertaken by a California headquartered
27 corporation during the majority of the time period involved and safety-related activities directed
28

1 from this District, California has a significant interest in regulating corporate conduct occurring
2 within its borders and in ensuring that manufacturers provide complete risk information to
3 physicians and patients.

4 16. Plaintiff does not seek a determination of governing law at the pleading stage and
5 alleges claims under all applicable state laws to be determined by the Court.

6 **IV. REGULATORY BACKGROUND AND PMA HISTORY**

7 **A. OVERVIEW OF SPINAL CORD STIMULATION DEVICES AND THEIR**
8 **INTENDED USE**

9 17. SCS devices are Class III implantable neuromodulation systems designed to deliver
10 electrical impulses to the spinal cord to mask or modulate chronic intractable pain. SCS systems
11 typically consist of an implantable pulse generator (IPG), one or more electrical leads, and external
12 patient controllers for adjusting therapeutic levels.

13 18. The underlying therapeutic premise of SCS devices is that electrical stimulation of
14 the dorsal columns can “override” or “mask” the transmission of pain signals to the brain, thereby
15 providing relief for chronic pain conditions that are otherwise resistant to conventional treatments.

16 19. SCS devices have long been associated with complex risks, including but not limited
17 to device migration, lead breakage, battery failure, infection, stimulation-induced neurological
18 deficits, exacerbation of pain, and autonomic dysfunction.

19 20. Due to these inherent risks, SCS devices are classified by the FDA as Class III
20 medical devices. The federal regulatory framework is referenced solely to describe the type of safety
21 information ordinarily available to manufacturers of implantable medical devices and relied upon
22 by physicians when making treatment decisions, and not as an independent basis for liability.

23 **B. NEVRO’S SCS PRODUCTS**

24 21. Defendant Nevro designs, manufactures, markets, and distributes the Nevro HFX
25 Senza Omnia SCS, an implantable device indicated for the treatment of limited varieties of chronic
26 and intractable pain.

22. Defendant's SCS product includes an Implanted Pulse Generator (IPG) and percutaneous lead wires. The IPG is a rechargeable implantable device with 16 output channels. Each of the 16 outputs can be programmed as a cathode or an anode. The IPG is powered by a 3.6 V nominal Li-Ion rechargeable battery (single cell). It is capable of stimulating the spinal cord nerves through the electrodes of the leads connected to any combination of the output terminals, using a single current source.

23. The IPG component of the SCS is implanted in the patient subcutaneously, and the lead wires are implanted and secured along predetermined locations along the patient's spinal cord.

24. Once implanted and operational, the SCS delivers electrical impulses to the patient's spinal cord, with the purpose of modulating the electrical pain signals which manifest in subjective patient pain.

25. The implantation parameters for the SCS and the magnitude of electrical stimulation delivered by it often results in repeated electrical insult to one or more branches of the vagus nerve and other nerve tissues.

26. The different branches of the vagus nerve, respectively, modulate such processes as esophageal motility, cardiac rhythm, equilibrium, bowel function, and many others.

27. The overstimulation caused by the design of the Nevro SCS can lead to dysmotility, syncope, arrhythmias and incontinence.

28. Moreover, the magnitude and duration of insult to the vagus nerve caused by the Nevro SCS can give way to a process called nociception, whereby the parasympathetic nervous system perpetuates the manifestations of the aforementioned overstimulation, rendering the complications functionally permanent.

29. Defendant is aware of these risks and has failed to adequately warn patients or medical providers, including those of Plaintiff.

30. Other manufacturers of SCS devices include warnings on their devices of these potential adverse events.

1 31. In the 1976 Medical Device Amendments (MDA) to the Federal Food, Drug, and
2 Cosmetic Act (FDCA), Congress instituted a process for product review and clearance, using
3 different pathways and processes to permit drugs and medical devices to be sold to U.S.
4 consumers. Three classes of medical devices are regulated by the FDCA, Class I, Class II and Class
5 III, with greater degrees of scrutiny and regulation imposed on the manufacturer as the levels go
6 from I to III.

7 32. Class III devices are those that support or sustain human life, are of substantial
8 importance in preventing impairment of human health, or which present a potential, unreasonable
9 risk of illness or injury.

10 33. Premarket approval (PMA) is the FDA process of scientific and regulatory review
11 to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of Class III medical devices.

12 34. Under a Class III PMA, manufacturers have substantial and ongoing duties because
13 of the degree of risk associated with products carrying the classification. Failing to fulfill the duties
14 and comply with the associated requirements can result in the PMA being withdrawn.

15 35. State law, via common law and statutory enactments, provide financial remedies for
16 personal injuries arising from violations of parallel federal regulations applicable to Class III
17 devices. 21 U.S.C. § 360(k)(a).

18 36. Nevro received Pre-Market Approval from the FDA for the Senza spinal cord
19 stimulator in May 2015.

20 37. The Senza Omnia was brought to market via a PMA Supplement, Supplement S039
21 on July 16, 2021

22 **C. NEVRO'S SALES AND MARKETING PRACTICES**

23 38. At all relevant times, Nevro engaged in aggressive and deceptive sales practices in
24 order to market its SCS devices to clinicians engaged in the practice of spinal surgery and treatment
25 of chronic pain syndromes.

26 39. These sales practices involved direct contact between Nevro sales representatives
27 and patients, including Plaintiff.

1 40. As a prerequisite to reimbursement for the cost of SCS devices, including the Nevro
2 device at issue here, public and private insurance providers maintain strict requirements to assure
3 that the placement is medically necessary, including:

- 4 i. The implantation of the stimulator is used only as a late resort or (if not last resort)
5 for patients with chronic intractable pain.
- 6 ii. With respect to the first condition, other treatment modalities (pharmacological,
7 surgical, physical, or psychological therapies) have been tried and did not prove
8 satisfactory or are judged to be unsuitable or contraindicated for the given patient.
- 9 iii. Patients have undergone careful screening, evaluation, and diagnosis by a
10 multidisciplinary team prior to implantation (such screening must include
11 psychological, as well as physical evaluation).
- 12 iv. All the facilities, equipment, and professional and support personnel required for
13 the proper diagnosis, treatment training, and follow-up of the patient (including
14 that required to satisfy the third condition) must be available.
- 15 v. Demonstration of pain relief with a temporarily implanted electrode precedes
16 permanent implantation. Such relief must exhibit either 50% or greater reduction
17 of the patient's pain or 50% or greater reduction of the patient's reliance on
18 analgesic pain medications.¹

19 41. In order to assure the placement of a permanent stimulator implant following the
20 trial stimulation and procure reimbursement for an SCS device, Nevro's sales representatives are
21 trained to make false and/or misleading statements to patients and/or healthcare providers during
22 the trial stimulation period.

23 42. The aforesaid false and misleading statements are intended to induce patients and
24 healthcare providers to move forward with implantation of the permanent SCS device.

25 //

26
27 ¹ See, e.g. CMS NCD Manual, chapter 1, part 2, § 160.7(B)(2), Electrical Nerve Stimulators.
28

D. REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND FEDERAL DUTIES

43. Spinal cord stimulator (SCS) systems are regulated as Class III medical devices under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (“FDCA”), 21 U.S.C. § 301 et seq., and the Medical Device Amendments of 1976 (“MDA”), 21 U.S.C. § 360c et seq.

44. Class III devices are those that present the highest risk to patients and are subject to the most rigorous form of regulatory oversight, including the requirement to obtain Premarket Approval from the FDA prior to marketing. *See* 21 U.S.C. § 360e.

45. To obtain PMA, a manufacturer must submit detailed information demonstrating the safety and effectiveness of the device, including clinical trial data, descriptions of manufacturing methods, proposed labeling, and a risk-benefit analysis. *See* 21 C.F.R. § 814.20.

46. Manufacturers of implantable medical devices possess safety and performance information after a device enters the market that is important to physicians evaluating treatment options.

47. The federal regulatory framework is referenced solely as evidence of the safety information and risk data available to Defendants and not as an independent basis for liability.

48. Plaintiff’s claims arise exclusively under traditional state tort law duties requiring manufacturers to provide reasonably safe products and adequate warnings to physicians and patients.

49. Medical device manufacturers maintain internal complaint handling, monitoring, and corrective action processes designed to evaluate safety information arising after a device enters the market.

50. The referenced safety requirements identify categories of safety information available to Defendants regarding device performance and risk.

51. The claim against the FDA seeks only to compel completion of a discrete, nondiscretionary administrative processing duty after receipt of mandatory safety submissions and does not request the Court to evaluate, modify, or invalidate any approval decision, scientific judgment, or enforcement determination.

52. Plaintiff asserts traditional state law claims that parallel duties requiring reasonably safe products and adequate warnings to physicians and patients.

53. Plaintiff's state-law claims arise under the substantive law determined by the Court's choice-of-law analysis, including California, Pennsylvania, and Montana law and, to the extent applicable, the law of any jurisdiction whose consumer protection or product liability law governs specific issues in this action. Federal requirements are referenced solely to define parallel safety duties and not as independent causes of action.

**V. ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE FDA UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE
PROCEDURE ACT**

54. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

55. Defendant United States Food and Drug Administration is an agency of the United States government charged with ensuring that medical devices marketed in the United States are safe and effective for their intended use, pursuant to the FDCA, 21 U.S.C. § 301 *et seq.*, and the MDA, 21 U.S.C. § 360c *et seq.*

56. Under the APA, 5 U.S.C. §706(1), federal courts may compel agency action unlawfully withheld or unreasonably delayed.

57. Plaintiff seeks relief limited to unreasonable delay in processing mandatory safety submissions and does not request the Court to direct any particular regulatory outcome.

58. Safety information required to be submitted to the agency was provided through mandatory reporting mechanisms applicable to Class III medical devices.

59. After receipt of those submissions, the agency did not complete the required administrative processing step within a reasonable time, independent of any scientific or regulatory evaluation of the content of those submissions.

60. This claim seeks only to require completion of that processing duty and does not request review of the agency's scientific or policy determinations.

1 61. Plaintiff does not allege the FDA caused their injuries and seeks only prospective
2 relief requiring completion of a nondiscretionary administrative processing duty.

3 62. The administrative processing sought in this action concerns the agency's handling
4 of submitted safety information and does not require the Court to determine any particular
5 regulatory outcome.

6 **VI. PLAINTIFF-SPECIFIC FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

7 63. On or about October 23, 2019, Plaintiff was surgically implanted with a Nevro
8 permanent spinal cord stimulator system (SCS).

9 64. Plaintiff was told by Nevro's sales representative that the permanent device would
10 relieve most of Plaintiff's pain. In reality, the device caused worsening pain, numbness in
11 extremities, muscle weakness, falls resulting in injuries, urinary incontinence, and blood clots,
12 despite being both initially programmed by a Nevro sales representative as well as being
13 reprogrammed after the initial programming.

14 65. Plaintiff was met by a Nevro sales representative on multiple occasions. These visits
15 occurred outside of the presence of their doctor. During these visits, Plaintiff voiced complaints
16 about the unit's negative side effects and the sales representative reprogrammed the device.

17 66. Based on the representations made by the sales representatives, before, during and
18 after the SCS trial period, Plaintiff elected to be permanently implanted with the Nevro SCS system.

19 67. Immediately after the permanent implant surgery, Nevro representatives
20 programmed and made therapeutic adjustments to the SCS system without meaningful physician
21 supervision. This continued to occur on multiple occasions after Plaintiff was implanted with the
22 SCS system.

23 68. Throughout the time that Plaintiff was implanted with a SCS system manufactured
24 by Nevro, they were required to undergo additional procedure.

25 69. All leads used in the SCS systems implanted in Plaintiff were manufactured and sold
26 by Nevro.

1 70. As a direct and proximate result of the defective and misrepresented nature of the
2 device, Plaintiff suffered physical injury, worsening pain, emotional distress, and economic
3 damages including medical expenses and loss of quality of life.

4 71. Plaintiff discovered the probable causal relationship between their injuries and
5 Nevro's conduct only after experiencing continued device-related complications, removal of the
6 device, and finally being informed about the underlying facts of the SCS that contradicted Nevro's
7 representations.

8 72. Until Plaintiff learned the underlying facts of the safety and efficacy of Nevro's SCS
9 devices, they continued to believe that their conditions and the efficacy of the devices were an
10 aberration limited to themselves and not caused by a pattern and practice of Nevro.

11 73. During all times relevant to this Complaint Nevro fraudulently concealed from
12 Plaintiff the truth regarding the safety and efficacy of the SCS devices, and Plaintiff could not have,
13 with reasonable due diligence, determined such truth. In fact, to this day, Nevro continues to insist
14 that its SCS devices are safe and efficacious.

15 **VII. DEFENDANTS' MISREPRESENTATIONS, OMISSIONS, AND REGULATORY**
16 **VIOLATIONS**

17 **A. FAILURE TO DISCLOSE MATERIAL RISKS**

18 74. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs of this
19 Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

20 75. At all relevant times, Defendants engaged in a course of conduct that withheld
21 material safety information from physicians and patients and failed to meet safety practices
22 expected of a reasonably prudent medical device manufacturer after a device enters the market.

23 76. Nevro represented to Plaintiff, their healthcare providers, and the medical
24 community that its spinal cord stimulation systems were safe, effective, and appropriate for long-
25 term implantation.

1 77. These representations were false, misleading, and incomplete. Nevro knew, or
2 should have known through post-market surveillance and regulatory obligations, that the spinal cord
3 stimulation system:

4 78. Posed an increased risk of device migration, stimulation failure, and neurological
5 injury;

6 79. Was marketed with stimulation modalities whose known risks were not disclosed to
7 physicians and patients;

8 80. Carried a known risk of autonomic dysfunction, including incontinence,
9 hypotension, and cardiac arrhythmia;

10 81. Had materially different performance characteristics from the external trial device.

11 82. Had material risk information been provided, Plaintiff's treating physicians would
12 have considered additional treatment options and risk factors when determining whether
13 implantation was appropriate.

14 83. Without material risk information, treating physicians lacked information necessary
15 to determine whether implantation was appropriate for Plaintiff.

16 **B. VIOLATIONS OF CURRENT GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES**
17 **(cGMPs)**

18 84. A reasonably prudent manufacturer of implantable neuromodulation devices
19 evaluates performance problems and communicates material risk information revealed during post-
20 market experience.

21 85. The safety practices referenced in this Complaint reflect the type of information
22 ordinarily available to manufacturers and relied upon by physicians when making treatment
23 decisions.

24 86. Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care in evaluating and communicating
25 material safety information, allowing undisclosed risks to affect treatment recommendations made
26 to Plaintiff.

1 87. Plaintiff's claims arise from Defendants' failure to provide reasonably safe products
2 and adequate safety information to physicians and patients under traditional state law duties.

3 **CAUSES OF ACTION**

4 **COUNT I: STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY – MANUFACTURING DEFECT**

5 (Against Defendant Nevro and Globus)

6 (Under Applicable State Law)

7 88. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations set forth above as though fully set
8 forth herein.

9 89. At all times relevant to this action, Nevro was engaged in the business of designing,
10 manufacturing, testing, labeling, distributing, and selling medical devices, including the spinal cord
11 stimulator systems implanted in Plaintiff.

12 90. The devices implanted in Plaintiff were not reasonably safe for their intended use
13 due to a manufacturing defect. The products, as manufactured and sold, deviated from Nevro's own
14 FDA-approved specifications and did not conform to the design and performance standards
15 described in PMA P010032 and its associated supplements.

16 91. Specifically, as detailed in preceding allegations, the SCS systems implanted in
17 Plaintiffs failed to conform with federal Quality System Regulations, including 21 C.F.R. §§
18 820.30(g) (design validation), 820.75 (process validation), 820.100 (corrective and preventive
19 action), and 820.198 (complaint handling). These violations resulted in systemic defects in firmware
20 execution, wireless programming reliability, and battery charging performance.

21 92. These deviations were not theoretical. Plaintiff's implanted device failed during
22 normal and foreseeable use, producing painful sensations, stimulation loss, and other adverse effects
23 that led to surgical removal and permanent injury.

24 93. Plaintiff's injuries were not caused by a known or inherent risk of the device when
25 properly manufactured, but rather by a departure from its intended and approved construction. The
26 product failed to perform as represented, and it would not have failed but for Nevro's failure to
27 comply with FDA-mandated specifications and manufacturing protocols.

1 cumulative nature of the device's evolution, and that its current form bore little resemblance to the
2 device described in PMA P010032 or its Summary of Safety and Effectiveness Data.

3 101. The failure to warn was compounded by Nevro's internal knowledge of these risks,
4 including MAUDE reports, post-market complaint data, and prior design and validation issues.
5 Despite this knowledge, Nevro continued to represent the device as "safe and effective" and failed
6 to initiate field safety notifications, device labeling changes, or provider education consistent with
7 21 C.F.R. § 814.39(d) or 21 C.F.R. § 820.198.

8 102. Plaintiff and their healthcare providers reasonably relied on Nevro's representations
9 and omissions in deciding to proceed with implantation of the SCS devices. Had they been
10 adequately warned of the known risks, the device would not have been implanted, or alternative
11 treatments would have been pursued.

12 103. Plaintiff's injuries were caused in whole or in part by Nevro's failure to warn of
13 known or knowable dangers associated with the use of its product. These failures rendered the
14 device unreasonably dangerous for its intended use and constitute a defect under California,
15 Pennsylvania, and Montana law.

16 104. As a direct and proximate result of Nevro's failure to warn, Plaintiff suffered
17 physical injury, pain, medical costs, surgical intervention, emotional distress, and other damages.

18 **COUNT III: NEGLIGENCE PER SE – FEDERAL REGULATORY**
19 **VIOLATIONS**

20 (Against Defendant Nevro and Globus)

21 (Under Applicable State Law)

22 105. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations set forth above as though fully set
23 forth herein.

24 106. Under California, Pennsylvania, and Montana law, a person injured by the violation
25 of a statute or regulation intended to protect the class of persons to which that person belongs may
26 recover damages under a theory of negligence per se.

107. Nevro was subject to, and violated, multiple non-discretionary federal duties that were enacted for the protection of public health and safety. These duties are embodied in the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA), the Medical Device Amendments of 1976, and FDA regulations promulgated thereunder, including:

- i. **21 C.F.R. § 814.39(a)** – requiring new PMAs for changes that may affect device safety or effectiveness;
- ii. **21 C.F.R. § 803.50** – mandating adverse event reporting;
- iii. **21 C.F.R. § 820.30(g)** – requiring design validation under expected use conditions;
- iv. **21 C.F.R. § 820.75** – requiring process validation to ensure consistent device output;
- v. **21 C.F.R. § 820.198** – requiring investigation of complaints;
- vi. **21 C.F.R. § 820.100** – mandating corrective and preventive action (CAPA) when product failures are identified;
- vii. **21 C.F.R. § 814.39(d)** – requiring labeling updates in response to known risks.

108. The device implanted in Plaintiff materially deviated from the system approved in PMA P010032. It incorporated design and firmware changes that altered its safety profile, yet Nevro failed to file a new PMA or submit panel-track supplements, as required by 21 C.F.R. § 814.39(a). Nevro instead submitted piecemeal supplements and exploited expedited review programs to bypass clinical safety validation.

109. Nevro also failed to report adverse events linked to stimulation shutoff, therapy loss, and electrical shocks under 21 C.F.R. § 803.50. These adverse effects were known to Nevro prior to Plaintiff's implantation and were consistent with reports subsequently leading to Class I recalls in 2023.

110. Nevro violated design and manufacturing regulations by failing to validate the performance of its firmware-dependent stimulation control, Bluetooth-based programming, and battery recharging systems. It also failed to initiate CAPA processes in response to known problems,

1 and did not investigate or disclose known product complaints in accordance with 21 C.F.R. §§
2 820.100 and 820.198.

3 111. Each of these violations constitutes a breach of federal laws that were designed to
4 protect a class of persons, of which Plaintiff is a member, against a particular type of harm.

5 112. Plaintiff is a member of the class of persons these statutes and regulations are
6 intended to protect: patients receiving high-risk Class III medical implants under the FDA's PMA
7 regulatory framework. Plaintiff's injuries are of the type these laws are intended to prevent—
8 namely, harm resulting from undisclosed and unremedied device malfunctions that occur due to
9 failures in quality systems, post-market reporting, and product validation.

10 113. As a direct and proximate result of Nevro's violations of federal regulations and
11 California, Pennsylvania, and Montana law, Plaintiff suffered compensable physical injury, pain,
12 medical costs, loss of enjoyment of life, and other damages.

13 114. These regulatory violations were not merely technical infractions, but material
14 breaches of duties specifically intended to prevent the type of harm suffered by Plaintiff—namely,
15 therapy loss, neurological injury, and delayed surgical intervention due to systemic firmware and
16 charging failures.

17 **COUNT IV: BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY**

18 (Against Defendant Nevro and Globus)

19 (Under Applicable State Law)

20 115. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations set forth above as though fully set
21 forth herein.

22 116. Under California law, an express warranty is created when a seller makes any
23 affirmation of fact or promise to the buyer that relates to the goods and services and becomes part
24 of the basis of the bargain. Pennsylvania and Montana law are in accord.

25 117. Prior to the implantation of the spinal cord stimulator devices, Nevro made explicit
26 representations in its promotional materials, device labeling, Instructions for Use (IFU), public
27 statements, and directly to Plaintiff through its sales representatives that the device was safe,
28

1 effective, reliable, and had been adequately tested for use in human patients suffering from chronic
2 pain.

3 118. Nevro expressly warranted that its SCS devices provided consistent pain relief,
4 seamless therapy delivery, safe wireless programming, and a rechargeable platform with superior
5 reliability and patient comfort. Nevro's provider materials represented that its SCS systems were
6 "FDA-approved," "clinically validated," and "designed for long-term use with low complication
7 rates." These claims were repeated in sales brochures, website copy, and Nevro's physician training
8 materials. These claims were repeated directly to Plaintiff through Nevro's sales representatives
9 prior to each of their implant decisions.

10 119. These affirmations and promises became part of the basis of the bargain between
11 Nevro and Plaintiff, as well as Plaintiff's implanting physician. Plaintiff and their physician relied
12 on these representations to proceed with the implantation of the spinal cord stimulator systems.

13 120. In fact, the SCS systems implanted in Plaintiff had never undergone clinical
14 validation in its final marketed form. The FDA approved the system based on "sufficient similarity"
15 to earlier devices, not on Nevro-sponsored clinical trial data specific to the device actually
16 implanted. Nevro failed to disclose that its device had been significantly altered through nearly 250
17 PMA supplements, nor that these changes materially affected the device's safety and reliability.

18 121. The device failed to perform as promised. Plaintiff experienced therapy loss, painful
19 electrical sensations, device communication failure, and required surgical revision and removal.
20 The product was not safe, effective, or reliable as expressly warranted by Nevro, and Nevro failed
21 to provide adequate warnings or updates contradicting its original claims.

22 122. Nevro's breach of its express warranties directly and proximately caused
23 Plaintiff's injuries. Had the device performed as warranted, Plaintiff would not have suffered
24 worsening pain, adverse neurological symptoms, or required surgical intervention.

25 123. As a result of this breach of express warranty, Plaintiff is entitled to recover all
26 compensatory damages allowed under California, Pennsylvania, and Montana law, including
27 medical expenses, pain and suffering, and other economic and noneconomic losses.

COUNT V: BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY
AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE

(Against Defendant Nevro and Globus)

(Under Applicable State Law)

124. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations set forth above as though fully set forth herein.

125. Under California law, a seller who is a merchant with respect to goods of that kind warrants that the goods shall be merchantable and fit for the ordinary purposes for which such goods are used. Pennsylvania and Montana law is in accord.

126. Nevro is a merchant engaged in the business of manufacturing, marketing, and selling spinal cord stimulator systems, including systems implanted in Plaintiff. These devices are used for the ordinary purpose of treating chronic pain through safe and effective neuromodulation therapy.

127. When Nevro marketed and sold its SCS systems implanted in Plaintiff, it impliedly warranted that the devices were of merchantable quality, conformed to FDA-approved specifications, and were reasonably safe for its intended medical purpose. Nevro also impliedly warranted that the devices were fit for the specific purpose of long-term implantation to treat Plaintiff's condition, as recommended by their physician.

128. The devices implanted in Plaintiff were not of merchantable quality, nor were they fit for their intended purpose. They failed to operate as expected due to known defects in firmware execution, wireless programming, battery recharging, and therapy delivery. Plaintiff experienced painful shocks, therapy failure, and ultimately underwent surgical removal due to the product's unreliability and malfunction.

These failures were not caused by misuse or physician error. They were the direct result of design-altering changes Nevro implemented without corresponding clinical testing or validation, and without disclosing these risks in labeling or provider materials. The devices failed

1 to conform to the minimum standards of merchantability and fitness for long-term neuromodulation
2 therapy.

3 130. Nevro's breach of implied warranties was a proximate cause of Plaintiff's injuries,
4 including physical pain, surgical intervention, economic loss, and emotional distress. Plaintiff
5 would not have consented to the implantation had they or their physician known the device was
6 unfit for its intended use.

7 **COUNT VI: NEGLIGENCE**

8 (Against Defendant Nevro and Globus)

9 (Under Applicable State Law)

10 131. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations set forth above as though fully set
11 forth herein.

12 132. Nevro owed Plaintiff a duty of reasonable care in the design, development,
13 manufacture, labeling, testing, marketing, sale, and post-market surveillance of the spinal cord
14 stimulator systems that it placed into the stream of commerce.

15 133. Nevro breached its duty of care in one or more of the following ways:

16 134. By negligently failing to ensure that the devices were manufactured in accordance
17 with FDA-approved specifications, including labeling, firmware, battery safety, and programming
18 reliability standards;

19 135. By negligently introducing cumulative design changes through successive PMA
20 supplements without proper validation, public clinical testing, or physician disclosure;

21 136. By negligently failing to investigate known risks associated with stimulation loss,
22 painful shocks, and therapy failure, despite premarket complaints, post-market adverse event
23 reports, and internal device testing;

24 137. By negligently failing to update its Instructions for Use, provider communications,
25 or promotional materials in accordance with 21 C.F.R. § 814.39(d) and 21 C.F.R. § 820.198, despite
26 known malfunctions;

1 138. By negligently failing to report adverse events related to its SCS systems in
2 accordance with 21 C.F.R. Part 803;

3 139. By failing to initiate corrective and preventive actions under 21 C.F.R. § 820.100
4 after receiving adverse reports of stimulation instability, lead migration, or battery failure consistent
5 with the experience of Plaintiff and other patients.

6 140. These negligent acts and omissions constitute breaches of both Nevro's duties under
7 California, Pennsylvania, and Montana common law and its nondiscretionary regulatory obligations
8 under the FDCA and FDA regulations, including 21 C.F.R. Part 803, 21 C.F.R. §§ 820.30(g),
9 820.75, 820.100, 820.198, and 814.39(a)–(d). These regulatory violations support a state-law claim
10 for negligence and are not preempted under *Riegel v. Medtronic* or *Buckman v. Plaintiffs' Legal*
11 *Committee*. Nevro's deviation from these standards was not isolated, but systemic, as evidenced by
12 repeated internal and public reporting of identical failure modes across multiple product models.

13 141. California law similarly imposes a duty on manufacturers to exercise ordinary care
14 in the design, manufacture, labeling, and distribution of medical devices, including duties to
15 investigate known hazards and warn of risks not adequately disclosed. Pennsylvania and Montana
16 law is in accord.

17 142. Nevro's breach of its duties of care caused Plaintiff's injuries. As alleged above,
18 Plaintiff suffered painful device malfunction and therapy failure resulting in surgical revision and
19 eventual removal of the SCS system. These harms were foreseeable and preventable had Nevro
20 exercised reasonable care.

21 143. As a direct and proximate result of Nevro's negligence, Plaintiff suffered physical
22 pain, emotional distress, financial harm, and other compensable damages under California,
23 Pennsylvania, and Montana law.

24 //

25 //

26 //

27 //

COUNT VII: NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION

(Against Defendant Nevro and Globus)

(Under Applicable State Law)

144. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations set forth above as though fully set forth herein.

145. At all times relevant, Nevro, in the course of its business, made representations to healthcare providers, patients, and the general public regarding the safety, effectiveness, regulatory status, and performance of its spinal cord stimulator systems.

146. Nevro represented, through promotional materials, Instructions for Use, patient education resources, and provider training, that its SCS devices: were safe and effective for the long-term treatment of chronic pain; were fully FDA-approved and compliant with all applicable regulations; had been validated through rigorous clinical trials or otherwise demonstrated safe through FDA-approved testing; and maintained reliability in therapy delivery, stimulation programming, and battery recharging.

147. These representations were false. As set forth in the preceding allegations, Nevro failed to disclose that: none of its SCS devices had ever been clinically validated in their marketed form; these devices had undergone significant design and firmware changes through more than 230 PMA supplements; These changes materially altered its performance and introduced new, untested risks; and multiple recalls and adverse events had already emerged related to therapy shutoff, stimulation spikes, battery failure, and wireless programming.

148. Nevro made these misrepresentations and omissions in a commercial context, intending physicians and patients to rely on them in making decisions regarding device selection, implantation, and long-term management.

149. Nevro also made these misrepresentations directly to Plaintiff through its sales representatives, who misrepresented to Plaintiff that the permanent SCS systems would provide Plaintiff with long term pain relief, were safe and backed by clinical validation, would at least be

1 functionally equivalent to the trial SCS system, and would alleviate Plaintiff's need to receive other
2 treatment for their chronic pain.

3 150. Plaintiff's treating physician reasonably relied on Nevro's misrepresentations when
4 selecting the Nevro system for implantation. Plaintiff, in turn, relied on the statements made by
5 Nevro in patient-directed materials and directly to Plaintiff by Nevro sales representatives,
6 including assurance of FDA approval, therapy safety, and reliability, when consenting to
7 implantation.

8 151. Nevro failed to exercise reasonable care in obtaining or communicating accurate
9 information about the device's clinical validation, safety risks, and actual approval history. A
10 reasonable manufacturer in Nevro's position would have known, or should have known, that its
11 cumulative modifications had introduced serious safety issues and altered the nature of the devices
12 from its predicate.

13 152. As a direct and proximate result of Nevro's negligent misrepresentations and
14 omissions, Plaintiff suffered foreseeable physical and economic harm, including the pain and cost
15 of unnecessary and dangerous implantation and eventual revision surgery.

16 153. For avoidance of doubt, Plaintiff alleges misrepresentations were made to their and
17 their healthcare providers, not the FDA.

18 **COUNT VIII: FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT**

19 (Against Defendant Nevro and Globus)

20 (Under Applicable State Law)

21 154. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations set forth above as though fully set
22 forth herein.

23 155. At all times relevant, Nevro had superior knowledge of critical facts concerning the
24 safety, efficacy, and approval history of its spinal cord stimulator systems—information not
25 available to Plaintiff, their treating physician, or the general public.

26 156. Nevro was under a duty to disclose material facts relating to the performance and
27 risks of the SCS system due to: exclusive access to adverse event reports and internal product
28

1 complaint data; control over PMA supplement disclosures and labeling updates; direct and indirect
2 representations to patients and physicians; statutory and regulatory duties under 21 C.F.R. §§
3 803.50, 814.39, and 820.198 to disclose newly acquired safety information.

4 157. Nevro actively concealed or failed to disclose that: the SCS systems had undergone
5 extensive, untested design and firmware changes; the FDA had approved the devices based only on
6 similarity to legacy SCS systems—not on new clinical trial data; known issues with therapy
7 interruption, device shutdown during charging, and unintended stimulation had been internally
8 reported, but not publicly disclosed, matching the adverse experiences of Plaintiff and other
9 patients.

10 158. Nevro’s concealment of these material facts was intentional, or made with reckless
11 disregard for the truth, and was undertaken to encourage widespread implantation and minimize
12 safety concerns in order to preserve market share.

13 159. Plaintiff and their physician justifiably relied on Nevro’s omission of material safety
14 information when consenting to implantation of the SCS systems. Plaintiff was unaware—and had
15 no way of knowing—that Nevro was concealing data and risks that materially affected the safety
16 of these devices.

17 160. Nevro’s fraudulent concealment directly and proximately caused the Plaintiff’s
18 injuries, including their exposure to harmful device malfunctions, surgical intervention, and
19 resulting physical and emotional harm. Had the concealed risks been disclosed, Plaintiff would not
20 have consented to implantation. The concealment of safety-related defects amounted to active fraud
21 in the context of patient trust and medical device implantation. For the avoidance of doubt, Plaintiff
22 is not alleging fraud on the FDA.

23 **COUNT IX: VIOLATION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION LAWS**

24 (Against Defendant Nevro and Globus)

25 (Under Applicable State Law)

26 161. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations set forth above as though fully set
27 forth herein.
28

1 162. Nevro, through its consumer-oriented marketing, labeling, promotional efforts, and
2 public communications, engaged in false, misleading, and deceptive acts and practices in
3 connection with the promotion and sale of its spinal cord stimulator systems that were implanted in
4 Plaintiff.

5 163. These acts include: falsely advertising the devices as safe, effective, and FDA-
6 approved without disclosing that the approved form of the device was materially altered through
7 hundreds of PMA supplements; failing to disclose known malfunctions, including painful shocks,
8 device shutdowns, and therapy loss; omitting material information regarding recalls, firmware
9 instability, and clinical trial limitations; and misrepresenting the scope and meaning of FDA
10 approval to patients and providers.

11 164. Plaintiff was a foreseeable consumer of the device. Although Plaintiff relied in part
12 on their physician's advice, Nevro engaged in direct-to-consumer advertising and disseminated
13 patient-facing marketing materials that contained false or misleading information.

14 165. Plaintiff and their physician reasonably relied on Nevro's omissions and
15 misrepresentations when consenting to device implantation. Had the material facts been disclosed,
16 Plaintiff would not have proceeded with implantation.

17 166. As a result of Nevro's statutory violations, Plaintiff suffered personal injury and
18 economic loss and is entitled to recover all damages, equitable relief, and attorneys' fees available
19 under state consumer protection laws.

20 **COUNT X: NEGLIGENCE PER SE – UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF**
21 **MEDICINE**

22 (Against Defendant Nevro and Globus)

23 (Under Applicable State Law)

24 167. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations set forth above as though fully set
25 forth herein.

26 168. California, Pennsylvania, and Montana law prohibits the unauthorized practice of
27 medicine by any individual or corporate entity not licensed in California, Pennsylvania, and
28

1 Montana, respectively. These prohibitions reflect a clear public policy interest in ensuring that only
2 licensed professionals make medical decisions affecting patient care.

3 169. Nevro is not licensed to practice medicine in California, Pennsylvania, and Montana,
4 or any other state. Nevertheless, Nevro exercised functional control over the administration of
5 Plaintiff's neuromodulation therapy by: actively participating in the implantation of its SCS system
6 in Plaintiff's body, intra operatively programing that SCS system, and programming the SCS
7 system post-operatively; pushing firmware updates and stimulation programming changes remotely
8 after implantation; designing and controlling preset therapy "profiles" that physicians could not
9 override without manufacturer approval; and altering battery behavior, stimulation amplitude, and
10 system responsiveness without physician direction or real-time medical oversight.

11 170. These actions constitute the unauthorized practice of medicine, as they involved
12 making decisions about the nature, extent, and delivery of Plaintiff's therapy during and after
13 implantation, without informed consent or involvement by a licensed provider.

14 171. Under California, Pennsylvania, and Montana law, violation of a safety statute gives
15 rise to negligence per se where the injured party is within the class the statute was intended to protect
16 and the injury is of the type the statute was designed to prevent.

17 172. Plaintiff, as a patient undergoing neuromodulation therapy, is squarely within the
18 protected class. Their injuries, caused by improper therapeutic manipulation without medical
19 oversight, are the exact type the law is intended to prevent.

20 173. As a direct and proximate result of Nevro's unauthorized and unlicensed
21 manipulation of Plaintiff's therapy, Plaintiff suffered harm, including painful stimulation, surgical
22 revision, and other physical and emotional injuries. This harm was exacerbated by Plaintiff's loss
23 of therapeutic control, wherein Nevro, through remote firmware updates, preset programming, and
24 device-level automation, functionally practiced medicine by dictating post-implant treatment
25 decisions that should have remained within the licensed provider-patient relationship

26 //

27 //

**COUNT XI: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT (APA) – DECLARATORY
AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AGAINST THE FDA**

(Against Defendant U.S. Food and Drug Administration)

(5 U.S.C. §§ 701–706; *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*,
603 U.S. 369 (2024))

174. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

175. This claim is brought solely to compel agency action unlawfully withheld under 5 U.S.C. §706(1) and does not seek to impose liability on the FDA for Plaintiff’s injuries.

176. This cause of action is brought against Defendant United States Food and Drug Administration solely in its official capacity under the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701–706.

177. The APA authorizes a court to compel agency action unlawfully withheld under 5 U.S.C. §706(1).

178. Plaintiff seeks an order compelling the agency to perform the discrete administrative action required after receipt of mandatory safety submissions, without directing any particular substantive outcome.

179. Plaintiff does not seek review of any approval decision, scientific determination, or enforcement action.

180. Plaintiff does not seek damages or causation findings against the FDA.

181. The requested relief is limited to completion of the administrative processing duty described above and does not seek to control any scientific or enforcement decision.

182. Plaintiff requests a declaration as to unreasonable delay under 5 U.S.C. §706(1) and an order requiring completion of the administrative processing duty described above.

//

//

//

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

183. **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in their favor and against Defendant Nevro and Globus as to all counts other than Count XI, and, with respect to Count XI, against the United States Food and Drug Administration, and award the following relief:

- i. Compensatory damages in an amount to be determined at trial for physical injury, pain and suffering, emotional distress, medical expenses, loss of enjoyment of life, and all other actual damages recoverable under applicable law;
- ii. Statutory damages and attorney's fees and costs pursuant to any applicable consumer protection statutes;
- iii. Punitive or exemplary damages, as allowed by law, based on Defendant Nevro's willful, malicious, and/or reckless disregard for the safety and rights of Plaintiff and the public;
- iv. Declare that the FDA's failure to require a new PMA for Nevro's spinal cord stimulator systems referenced herein violated the APA and applicable statutory and regulatory duties;
- v. Declare that the FDA's approval and ongoing allowance of materially altered devices under the PMA without new safety review is arbitrary, capricious, and contrary to law;
- vi. Enter appropriate injunctive relief requiring the FDA to initiate enforcement proceedings or PMA reevaluation under 21 C.F.R. §§ 814.39 and 814.82;
- vii. Award attorneys' fees and costs associated with this APA action under applicable law;
- viii. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as provided by law;
- ix. The costs of this action; and
- x. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

//

JURY TRIAL DEMAND

184. Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Dated: March 6, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

WISNER BAUM, LLP



Behram V. Parekh (CA Bar # 180361
bparekh@wisnerbaum.com
11111 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 1750
Los Angeles, CA 90025
Telephone: (310) 207-3233
Facsimile: (310) 820-7444

Counsel for Plaintiff