#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

# WILLIAM E. STANSBURY, Plaintiff,

VS.

# 50 2012 CAD1 3 93 3 XXXXX

Case No.

TED S. BERNSTEIN; SIMON BERNSTEIN; LIC HOLDINGS, INC.; and ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., f/k/a ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, L.L.C., Defendants, COPY RECEIVED FOR FILING

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SHARON R. BOCK CLERK & COMPTROLLER CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION

# <u>COMPLAINT</u> And JURY DEMAND

WILLIAM STANSBURY (PLAINTIFF"), by and through his undersigned co-counsel,

hereby demanding trial by jury of all issues so triable, hereby sues the Defendants, and says

1. This is an action for money damages in excess of \$15,000, and for equitable relief.

2. Plaintiff is sui juris, and a resident of Palm Beach County, Florida.

3. Defendants TED S. BERNSTEIN ("TED BERNSTEIN"), and SIMON BERNSTEIN

are both sui juris, and are both residents of Palm Beach County, Florida.

4. The corporate Defendants, LIC HOLDINGS, INC.; and ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., f/k/a ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, L.L.C., are entities organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida, all do business in the State of Florida and all have their principal offices in the State of Florida, and in Palm Beach County, Florida.

5. Defendants SIMON BERNSTEIN and TED BERNSTEIN (collectively "Defendants

EXHIBIT

BERNSTEIN") are, respectively, one another's father and son. They both own and control all of the corporate Defendants, and work closely together with respect thereto. In all matters involved herein, they worked closely together and were virtually one another's alter egos.

7 The acts and incidents giving rise to these causes of action occurred in Palm Beach County, Florida.

#### Background

8. Plaintiff has worked in the insurance field virtually all his adult life, and by 2003 had become well-known and highly regarded by major insurance companies, their principals, and by others throughout the insurance industry, at all levels thereof, as well as by professionals, including attorneys, CPAs, financial advisors, wealth managers and others who were involved in serving, or otherwise dealing with, insurers and insurance brokers.

9. SIMON BERNSTEIN dealt at high levels of the insurance industry, and specialized in developing and marketing insurance concepts suitable for persons of high net worth to incorporate in their wealth management and estate planning.

10. TED BERNSTEIN was actively involved in selling life insurance products in conjunction with attorneys, CPAs and other professionals, to be incorporated into clients' financial planning.

11. In 2003, TED BERNSTEIN approached Plaintiff, urging Plaintiff to spearhead the marketing of a unique insurance concept ("the said concept"), newly developed by a prominent law firm, which was designed for use in the financial and estate planning of wealthy individuals.

12. TED BERNSTEIN told Plaintiff that he knew of Plaintiff's knowledgeability, and reputation in the insurance and related industries and professions, and that Plaintiff was skilled

at, and accustomed to, speaking and marketing insurance products to, large groups of professsionals, and that he realized that Plaintiff, because of his knowledgeability, reputation and abilities, would be ideal to market this concept nationwide, through prominent and experienced professionals..

.:...

13. SIMON BERNSTEIN proposed that Plaintiff work as an independent contractor for the Corporate Defendants, marketing the product to the above-described He offered Plaintiff an arrangement whereby Plaintiff would receive twenty percent (20%) of all net retained amounts of commissions received from insurance companies and general agents' overrides (hereinafter, "commissions") which chose to issue policies of the type to be marketed, for use in the said financial and estate planning, and all other sales by the companies. Plaintiff would receive no other salary remuneration, but would have his travel and marketing expenses advanced or reimbursed. In time, when Plaintiff agreed to become an employee rather than an independent contractor, he agreed to a salary of the equivalent of 15% of commissions received on all products.

14. After reviewing the concept and considering the terms of the arrangement offered by SIMON BERNSTEIN, Plaintiff agreed with BERNSTEIN to accept the proposal described in preceding paragraph 13, and all the parties proceeded to act in accordance therewith.

15. Thereafter, Plaintiff worked with diligence and skill, traveling throughout the United States, generating ever increasing sales, and generating very large commissions for Defendants and for Plaintiff, who received the agreed salary equal to 15% thereof. By 2006, the parties hereto began receiving checks, not only for commissions on new policies sold, but also renewal commissions. Initially, the Plaintiff and Defendants BERNSTEIN, and one secretary, comprised the entire workforce. At the height of the sales campaign, Defendants' staff for serving the

business generated by Plaintiff consisted of more than 40 individuals.

16. In 2005, the Plaintiff was paid his commissions in the form of two IRS forms 1099, from National Services Association, and from Defendant ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL MARKETING, INC. for his services as an independent contractor.

17. In 2006, Plaintiff received his agreed salary as an employee, reflected in two IRS forms W-2., One W-2 was from ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL MARKETING, INC., and the other was from ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, INC., which later became Defendant ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

18. Also in 2006, SIMON BERNSTEIN told Plaintiff that Plaintiff, was being rewarded for the explosive growth of business, through receiving a 10% interest in LIC.

19. In 2007, Plaintiff received his agreed salary as an employee, which salary was reflected in an IRS Form W-2.

20. With the economic downturn in 2008, Defendants looked for ways to withhold from Plaintiff compensation to which he was entitled, and to deceive him into believing that the money which would have been paid to both Defendants as well as to Plaintiff as compensation, was instead being held in the company's coffers.

21. In order to hide from Plaintiff the real fact that Defendants were paying to Defendants BERNSTEIN the full earnings received as commissions, and thereby depriving Plaintiff of the 15% thereof to which he was entitled, they knew they had to terminate Plaintiff's function of calculating each person's entitlement to payment out of commissions received. Therefore, in early 2008, SIMON BERNSTEIN told Plaintiff that the Defendants BERNSTEIN felt that Plaintiff was spending too much time on making the said calculations, and that Plaintiff's time would be better spent in building the business. SIMON BERNSTEIN told Plaintiff that he and TED BERNSTEIN had decided to pay themselves and Plaintiff identical salaries of not less than \$1,000,000 each for 2008, and to distribute any profits beyond the total thus paid to the three owners, the Defendants BERNSTEIN and Plaintiff, according to their respective percentages of ownership, Plaintiff's share being 10%. Plaintiff, having thus far believed he was receiving whatever compensation he was entitled to, and having no reason to realize that this was a ruse to keep him in the dark as to the true state of affairs, readily acceded to his being relieved of the bookkeeping duties regarding calculating the disposition of moneys received.

22. Through misrepresentations made from 2008 through the date of filing of this Complaint, Defendants knowingly made false statements to Plaintiff to hide their scheme to withhold from Plaintiffs money to which he was entitled. For example, at times they claimed that money being received was not being paid as salary or distributions to either of Defendants BERNSTEIN but was being withheld and placed in company accounts, for eventual distribution. As Plaintiff and Defendants could afford to wait until year's end to be paid their distributions, and as Defendants BERNSTEIN assured Plaintiff that the payment arrangement would apply to all three equally, Plaintiff did not question the truthfulness of their representations..

23. In furtherance of their scheme to deprive Plaintiff of salary he had earned and to which he was entitled, Defendants intercepted mail addressed to Plaintiff, removed therefrom commission checks representing full commissions, deposited the same to their own accounts or otherwise converted the funds,, and willfully withhold from Plaintiff his salary. Defendants BERNSTEIN also opened Plaintiff's mail containing checks payable to him which were unrelated to Defendants' business.

24. In 2011, the Defendants BERNSTEIN decided to deceive Plaintiff into giving up

his 10% share in the business. Although he had never seen a stock certificate, Plaintiff had in fact been given K-1 statements reflecting his salary, which appeared to approximate 10% of the net profits or losses of LIC, after salary was paid. TED BERNSTEIN told Plaintiff that their accountants had discovered a taxable event which could cause all the owners of the company to have to pay taxes, and that they thought it would be unfair for Plaintiff to have to pay 10% of that tax, so TED BERNSTEIN promised that if Plaintiff would sign a paper ceding his 10% interest, TED BERNSTEIN would simply hold it and it would not become operative unless the tax liability came to exist. Plaintiff was assured that nothing would happen with the stock ownership until Plaintiff and the Defendants BERNSTEIN discussed the situation further after the Holiday Season.

. . . .

25. Because of the misrepresentations, willful concealments of material facts, duplicity and deceit practiced by Defendants upon Plaintiff as described in preceding paragraphs 20 through 24, Plaintiff was reasonably of the belief that Defendants had complied, or intended to comply, with their material obligations to Plaintiff under the contract between them, and therefore was prevented from knowing, for a period of years, that these causes of action existed. The acts of Defendants in making false statements and withholding material information continues from its inception to the date of the filing hereof.

#### I. ACCOUNTING (Against LIC and ARBITRAGE, for Accounting as to Withholding of Money Due Plaintiff)

26. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive.

27. The relationship between Plaintiff and the Defendants, particularly as affected by

Defendants' acts described in preceding paragraphs 20 through 25, inclusive, created a situation where Defendants had sole access to, receipts generated by Plaintiff's efforts, and to books and records reflecting said receipts and the other information from which can be calculated all moneys due to Plaintiff under his arrangement with Defendants.

28, The period of time during which Plaintiff has been deprived of moneys due him spans approximately four and a half years, the numerosity of the sources of receipts by Defendants of moneys from which the amounts due Plaintiff may be calculated, and the changes in the formula under which, and manner in which, Plaintiff was to be paid, all involve extensive and complicated accounts, and Plaintiff's remedy at law could not be as full, adequate and expeditious as it is in equity.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for an adjudication of Plaintiff's right to a full and complete accounting from Defendants, and for such orders of Court as will require the Defendants to provide Plaintiff with all records and copies of documents, dated from the date in 2003 when Plaintiff first began his efforts to generate sales of the concept described in paragraph 11 above to the present, as will reveal his right to, and the amount of, all amounts: (a) received as commissions on said concepts or any other commissions as to which Plaintiff was entitled to a share; (b) due to Plaintiff, whether paid or not; (c) paid to Plaintiff, whether for commissions, salary, distributions, expenses or any other reason; (d) paid to each of the Defendants out of moneys received as commissions; (e) deposits of any and all moneys received as commissions by any Defendants to any accounts, including the name of the entity whose account was involved, the number(s) of each such account; the address of the branch or other facility through which any Defendant dealt with such entity; (f) calculations as to moneys paid, to be paid, or not to be paid to Plaintiff, together with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### II. ACCOUNTING (Against TED S. BERNSTEIN and SIMON BERNSTEIN, for Accounting as to Money Due to Plaintiff Which Said Defendants Converted)

29. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive.

30. The relationship between Plaintiff and the Defendants, particularly as affected by Defendants' acts described in preceding paragraphs 20 through 25, inclusive, created a situation where Defendants had sole access to, receipts generated by Plaintiff's efforts, and to books and records reflecting said receipts and the other information from which can be calculated all moneys due to Plaintiff under his arrangement with Defendants.

31, The period of time during which Plaintiff has been deprived of moneys due him spans approximately four and a half years, the numerosity of the sources of receipts by Defendants of moneys from which the amounts due Plaintiff may be calculated, and the changes in the formula under which, and manner in which, Plaintiff was to be paid, all involve extensive and complicated accounts, and Plaintiff's remedy at law could not be as full, adequate and expeditious as it is in equity.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for an adjudication of Plaintiff's right to a full and complete accounting from Defendants, and for such orders of Court as will require the Defendants to provide Plaintiff with all records and copies of documents, dated from the date in 2003 when Plaintiff first began his efforts to generate sales of the concept described in paragraph 11 above to the present, as will reveal his right to, and the amount of, all amounts: (a) received as commissions on said concepts or any other commissions as to which Plaintiff was entitled to a share; (b) due to Plaintiff, whether paid or not; (c) paid to Plaintiff, whether for commissions, salary, distributions, expenses or any other reason; (d) paid to each of the Defendants out of moneys received as said commissions; (e) deposits of any and all moneys received as commissions by any Defendants to any accounts, including the name of the entity whose account was involved, the number(s) of each such account; the address of the branch or other facility through which any Defendant dealt with such entity; (f) calculations as to moneys paid, to be paid, or not to be paid to Plaintiff, together with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### III. BREACH OF ORAL CONTRACT (Against All the Defendants)

32. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive.

33. The arrangement between Plaintiff and Defendants as described in paragraphs 11 and 13 above, and as modified by the parties as further described above, constituted a contract between them.

34. An express term of that contract involved the commitment of Defendants to calculate, and to pay to Plaintiff, fully and timely, all sums due to him under the parties' contract, whether as commissions, salary, distributions, expenses or any other reason

35. The parties initially performed the duties required of them under said contract.

36. However, as described above in paragraphs 20 through 25, inclusive, Defendants willfully and maliciously agreed to breach their contract with Plaintiff by withholding from Plaintiff moneys due him under the contract.

37. Defendants did withhold such moneys due Plaintiff.

38. The withholding of such moneys constituted a material breach of the contact between Plaintiff and Defendants.

39. There is therefore due to Plaintiff from Defendants all amounts due under said contract, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest on said amounts.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Plaintiffs, jointly and severally, for the full amount of moneys due to Plaintiff under the terms of their contract, including agreedupon modifications thereof, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest on said amounts, together with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### IV. BREACH OF IMPLIED COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH and FAIR DEALING

40. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive, and paragraphs 33 through 38, inclusive.

41. The said contract, as a matter of law, contained an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, obligating the parties to honor every express term of the agreement..

42. Among the express terms of the oral contract between the parties were (a) that Plaintiff would be constantly apprised, either through being permitted to calculate all amounts due the Defendants out of commissions, or through being advised of all receipts of commissions and the disposition thereof, or the amounts due to Plaintiff for any reason under the terms of the contract; and (b) that Plaintiff would be fully and promptly paid all such amounts due him.

43. Through their actions as described in preceding paragraphs 20 through 25, inclusive, the Defendants willfully breached the said express of the contract.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Plaintiffs, jointly and severally, for

the full amount of moneys due to Plaintiff under the terms of their contract, including agreedupon modifications thereof, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest on said amounts, together with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### V. BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY

41. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive.

42. Plaintiff reposed full confidence in the defendants BERNSTEIN, and trusted them and relied on them to be as good as their word and to deal honestly with him, for a variety of reasons. Plaintiff knew of SIMON BERNSTEIN as a major figure in the insurance industry, prior to their becoming parties to the agreement involved herein. Moreover, Plaintiff and the Defendants BERNSTEIN had formed a social relationship which had grown into what Plaintiff regarded as friendship. Moreover, as the initial situation under their contractual relationship had Plaintiff receiving all information as to commissions received and calculating the amount of money due to Plaintiff and the Defendants BERNSTEIN, as ,mentioned in preceding paragraphs 21 and 22, and also because Plaintiff was told he had been given a minority shareholder interest in LIC, Plaintiff reasonably felt that the Defendants would deal with Plaintiff honestly and fairly, and that the Defendants had no intention of hiding from Plaintiff any information as to the amounts due Plaintiff or as to the Defendants' intention of paying said amounts to Plaintiff

43. Moreover, when Defendants proposed to Plaintiff that Plaintiffs cease being the one to calculate moneys due the parties out of commissions received, the Plaintiff trusted Defendants to make proper, accurate and complete calculations, as Plaintiff had done, and to pay Plaintiff accordingly. 44. Furthermore, when Defendants BERNSTEIN made statements to Plaintiff as to why payments due him were not being paid, as described, for example, in preceding paragraphs 22 through 25, inclusive, and 42, he trusted Defendants to be telling Plaintiff the truth,

45. As a result of the foregoing, a fiduciary relationship existed between Defendants BERNSTEIN and Plaintiff, and there existed in Plaintiff complete confidence and trust in the said Defendants, of which confidence and trust said Defendants were well aware.

46. Defendants BERNSTEIN accepted the trust which Plaintiff reasonably placed in them.

47 Through Defendants' willful misrepresentations and withholding of material information as to their intentions and the purposes for which Plaintiff's payments were not being paid, and through their diversion from Plaintiff of amounts which should have been paid to him, Defendants abused and betrayed Plaintiff's trust and confidence in them, to Plaintiff's great detriment, in that he has been deprived of the said amounts due him, the precise amount of which cannot be calculated without access to Defendants' books and records, and a full accounting by them.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Plaintiffs, jointly and severally, for the full amount of moneys due to Plaintiff under the terms of their contract, including agreedupon modifications thereof, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest on said amounts, together with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### VI. CIVIL THEFT Against All Defendants

48. This is an action for Civil Theft under Chapter 772, Florida Statutes, more

specifically §772.11, Fla.Stats.

49. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive.

50. All funds which Defendants' records will reveal are due to Plaintiff but which have been deposited to any of the Defendants' accounts or which have been received by any Defendant or diverted by any Defendant to any recipient but Plaintiff are the specific funds to which this Count relates.

51. By refusing to pay to Plaintiff funds due him under their agreement, and by paying said sums to themselves or to others, Defendants have been guilty of criminal theft by conversion, which has been and continues to be performed by Defendants with the criminal intent of stealing his money and depriving him of the possession and use thereof.

52. Written demand for payment of all amounts due Plaintiff has been made to Defendants, more than 30 days preceding the filing of this Complaint, to no avail.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Plaintiffs, jointly and severally, for three times the full amount of moneys due to Plaintiff under the terms of their contract, including agreed-upon modifications thereof, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest on said amounts, and such other remedies as may be awarded Plaintiff under other Counts herein, together with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate, together with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### <u>VII. FRAUD</u> (Against All Defendants)

53. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated

herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive.

54. Defendants, with the intent to defraud Plaintiff by preventing his receipt of moneys due him from Defendants as commissions, salary, distributions, expenses, and otherwise, made false statements to him and withheld material information from him, all as specifically set forth in preceding paragraphs 20 through 24 above.

55. At the time said statements were made, Defendants knew that they were material and false, and that Plaintiff would rely thereon. At the time said material information was withheld from Plaintiffs, Defendants knew that the information being withheld was material, and that the withholding of the information would cause Plaintiff to rely on the absence of said information

56. Defendants intended for Plaintiff to rely on said false statements of material fact and to rely on the absence of the material facts which were withheld.

57. Plaintiff did rely on the false statements and the withholding of material information, and was damaged thereby. Through the loss the possession and use of moneys due him but withheld by Defendants under their scheme to defraud him of said money.

58. The behavior of Defendants in deceiving Plaintiff and in abusing the trust they had engendered in Plaintiff, as set forth in preceding paragraphs 42 through 47, which are incorporated herein by reference as if expressly restated herein, was in willful and conscious disregard of his rights, and was of such a concerted, premeditated, and outrageous nature as to go beyond the bounds of decency, and constituted rampant fraud.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Plaintiffs, jointly and severally, for the full amount of moneys due to Plaintiff under the terms of their contract, including agreedupon modifications thereof, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest on said amounts, together with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### VIII. EQUITABLE LIEN

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59. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive, and paragraphs 54 through 58, inclusive.

60. The bank accounts into which any of the commissions received by Defendants as to which Plaintiff was to receive a share of commissions received, and the operating accounts and other accounts of the corporate Defendants into which said commission checks were deposited were intended by Defendants and by Plaintiff to be the source out of which Plaintiff would be paid, and they therefore were intended to be, and therefore should be, charged by this Court with the obligation of being the source of all amounts Plaintiff was and is to be paid, including amounts not yet paid.

61. Any and all other accounts into which were deposited said commissions or any part thereof, out of which Plaintiff was to be paid, should, out of general considerations of right and justice as applied to the relations of the parties and the circumstances of their dealings, be charged with the obligation of paying Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Plaintiffs, jointly and severally, for the full amount of moneys due to Plaintiff under the terms of their contract, including agreedupon modifications thereof, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest on said amounts. Plaintiff further prays for the Court to declare and establish an equitable lien in favor of Plaintiff on all the accounts described in preceding paragraphs 60 and 61, and for all other accounts into which said commissions have been or will be wholly or partly diverted, and on all assets of Defendants or third parties which have been purchased wholly or partly with the diversion of said funds due Plaintiff. Plaintiff further prays for such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### IX. CONTRACT IMPLIED IN LAW

62. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 25, inclusive.

63. By keeping the moneys due Plaintiff, Defendants have been unjustly enriched.

64. By agreeing to permit Defendants to receive, possess and control the paperwork revealing commissions received, and by agreeing that Defendants would assume the function of calculating amounts due the parties, Plaintiff conferred on Defendants the benefit of controlling the disposition of the funds received, including those due Plaintiff. The Defendants, having induced Plaintiff to confer said benefit, knew of the benefit and accepted and retained the benefit and abused it to defraud the Plaintiff.

65. The Circumstances are such that it would be inequitable for the Defendants to retain the benefit of the possession and use of funds due Plaintiff

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment that there exists a contract implied in law with the terms against Defendants described above, and for judgment against all Defendants, jointly and severally, for the full amount of moneys due to Plaintiff under the terms of their contract, including agreed-upon modifications thereof, together with prejudgment and postjudgment interest on said amounts, together with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### X. CONSTRUCTIVE TRUST

66. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive.

67. The bank accounts into which any of the commissions received by Defendants as to which Plaintiff was to receive a share of commissions received, and the operating accounts and other accounts of the corporate Defendants into which said commission checks were deposited were intended by Defendants and by Plaintiff to be the source out of which Plaintiff would be paid, and they therefore were intended to be, and therefore should be, charged by this Court with the obligation of being the source of all amounts Plaintiff was and is to be paid, including amounts not yet paid.

68. Any and all other accounts into which were deposited said commissions or any part thereof, out of which Plaintiff was to be paid, should, out of general considerations of right and justice as applied to the relations of the parties and the circumstances of their dealings, be charged with the obligation of paying Plaintiff.

.WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Plaintiffs, jointly and severally, for the full amount of moneys due to Plaintiff under the terms of their contract, including agreedupon modifications thereof, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest on said amounts. Plaintiff further prays for the Court to declare and establish a constructive trust in favor of Plaintiff on all the accounts described in preceding paragraphs 60 and 61, and for all other accounts into which said commissions have been or will be wholly or partly diverted, and on all assets of Defendants or third parties which have been purchased wholly or partly with the diversion of said funds due Plaintiff. Plaintiff further prays for such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

#### XI. INDEMNIFICATION

69. Plaintiff hereby reiterates and incorporates herein by reference, as if fully restated herein, preceding paragraphs 1 through 24, inclusive.

70. When Defendants entered the arrangement with Plaintiff described in preceding paragraph 13, SIMON BERNSTEIN, acting for himself and on behalf of the corporate Defendants and TED BERNSTEIN, and for their collective and shared benefit, told Plaintiff that it would be better for the simplicity of administration, if Plaintiff would arrange for all commissions, paid by insurance companies for sales of the said product by the Defendant companies, to be paid in the name of Plaintiff., even though Plaintiff would ultimately receive only 15% thereof.

71. Plaintiff, believing the representation that this was being requested solely to simplify bookkeeping and administration, agreed to receive all commissions in his own name, even though the bulk of each commission would become the property of the various Defendants.

72. At the time Defendants, through SIMON BERNSTEIN, represented to Plaintiff that the reason for their request that Plaintiff receive all commissions solely in his own name was for administrative simplicity, they knew that they had an ulterior motive in making this request. Their said motive was that, in the event any insurance company which had paid a commission for sale of the said product were to request a full refund of the commission on the ground that the insurance client or the broker had falsified the application for the policy, Defendants intended to disclaim liability therefor, and to avoid personal and corporate responsibility for any requests for refund of commissions paid, even though they collectively have received 85% of each such commission. 73. Plaintiff, acting in good faith, did not realize that Defendants were concealing this motive, or that such was their motive, and he reasonably relied on their representations as to the reason for the request, to his detriment.

74. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' representations, Plaintiff will have nominal full liability for refund of any commissions thus sought to be refunded as described in preceding paragraph 72. Such liability creates the certainty that requests for refunds will be made solely to Plaintiff, even though Defendants received 85% of the commissions. Such disproportionate and unfair liability has been caused by the willful misrepresentation by Defendants.

75. Plaintiff was without fault in reasonably relying on the said representations.

76. Defendants were solely at fault in creating the said liability.

77. There was a special relationship between Plaintiff and the Defendants, because Plaintiff was acting as the nominal agent for Defendants in receiving in his name 100% of the commissions, making him vicariously liable for the refund of the 85% of commissions which were retained by Defendants for their own benefit.

78. Moreover, Defendants had ceased to pay Plaintiff any commissions. Instead, as an employee he was now receiving a salary. To reflect Plaintiff's successful generation of Defendants' business, Defendants made Plaintiff's salary approximate 15% of the amount of commissions received. Nonetheless, as Plaintiff was not receiving any share of commissions *per se*, he should not have his indemnification limited to 85%, but rather it should be to the full 100% of all commissions being refunded.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for a Judgment in his favor, and against all Defendants, Adjudicating them under an obligation to defend, hold harmless and indemnify Plaintiff from and against refund claims for said commissions, to the extent of 100% thereof, and for such other and further relief as the Court shall deem just and appropriate.

Muly 30, 2012

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B١ Kenneth D. Stern

Fla. Bar No. 0244929

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

WILLIAM E. STANSBURY, Plaintiff,

#### CASE NO: 50 2012 CA 013933 MB AA

v.

TED S. BERNSTEIN; SIMON BERNSTEIN; LIC HOLDINGS, INC.; and ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT, LLC, f/k/a ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, LLC.

Defendants.



#### **ORDER ON DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER**

THIS CAUSE came on to be heard before this Honorable Court on Monday, January 14,

2013, upon Defendants' Motion for Protective Order and the Court having reviewed the file,

heard argument of counsel and being duly advised in the premises, it is hereby

#### ORDERED and ADJUDGED:

Defendants' Motion is hereby denied. 1. Twenty days to respect. 2.

DONE and ORDERED in Chambers, West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida on this  $\mu$  day of January, 2013.

Honorable Glenn Kellev

Honorable Glenn Kelley Circuit Judge

Copies to:

Jon Swergold, Esq., Greenberg Traurig, P.A., 401 East Las Olas Blvd., Suite 2000, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301; <u>swergoldj@gtlaw.com</u>; Peter M. Feaman, Esq., Peter M. Feaman, P.A., 3615 W. Boynton Beach Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL; pfeaman@feamanlaw.com.

Copies furnished by e-mail

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE:

Case No. 502012CP004391 SB

ESTATE OF SIMON BERNSTEIN, Deceased.

**Division: IZ** 

# STATEMENT OF CLAIM BY WILLIAM E. STANSBURY

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The undersigned hereby presents for filing against the above estate this Statement of Claim and alleges:

1. The basis for the claim is the action pending in Palm Beach County, Florida, *Stansbury v. Bernstein, et. al,* Case No. 502012CA 013933XXXX MB (the "Pending Action"). A true and correct copy of the Complaint filed by claimant that initiated the Pending Action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and is hereby incorporated by reference herein (the "Complaint").

2. The name and address of the claimant are William E. Stansbury, 6920 Caviro Lane, Boynton Beach, Florida 33437, and the name and address of the claimant's attorney is set forth below.

3. The amount of the claim is in excess of \$2.5 million dollars, which the Claimant is entitled to recover under the claims set forth in the Complaint, which amount the Claimant believes is now due.

4. The claim is contingent or unliquidated and uncertain to the extent that the Claimant's claim is dependent on the outcome of the Pending Action. The specific amount of Claimant's claim will be determined in Pending Action and the Claimant expects to recover in excess of \$2.5 million dollars in damages, as well as, but not limited to, treble damages, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, and costs.

5. The claim is not secured.

[Signature page follows this page]

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing, and the facts alleged are true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

ovenber 6,2012. Signed on \_ William E. Stansbury, Claimant-

Attorneys for Claimant

aman

Peter M. Feaman, Esq. Florida Bar No.: 260347 PETER M. FEAMAN, P.A. 3615 West Boynton Beach Blvd. Boynton Beach, FL 33436 Phone: (561) 734-5552 Facsimile: (561) 734-5554 Primary Electronic Mail Address: pfeaman@feamanlaw.com Copy mailed to attorney for Personal Representative on <u>11: 7</u> 2012.

Deputy Cler

#### MUST BE FILED IN DUPLICATE

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

# WILLIAM E. STANSBURY, \_ Plaintiff,

#### CASE NO: 50 2012 CA 013933 MB AA

v.

TED S. BERNSTEIN; SIMON BERNSTEIN; LIC HOLDINGS, INC.; and ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT, LLC, f/k/a ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, LLC. Defendants.

# RESPONSE OF PLAINTIFF WILLIAM E. STANSBURY TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, MOTION FOR MORE DEFINITE STATEMENT

Plaintiff WILLIAM E. STANSBURY, through undersigned counsel, hereby responds to Defendants' Motion to Dismiss or, in the Alternative, Motion for More Definite Statement, and states:

#### 1. General Response

When considering a Motion to Dismiss, the standard to be applied by the trial court is that every allegation must be accepted as true, and every inference must be drawn in favor of the Plaintiff; the pleader is only required to set forth "a short and plain statement of the ultimate facts showing that the pleader is entitled to relief." *See*, Rule 1.110(b), Fla. R.Civ. P.

The facts pled in the Complaint that support the various legal theories set forth in each Count are contained in paragraphs 8 through 25 of the Complaint. They establish that:

• Plaintiff was an employee and minority owner of LIC Holdings, Inc. (LIC); he was promised but not paid compensation that he was due for the years 2008 through 2011;

and he was denied promised profit distributions on his 10% ownership interest. See, paragraphs 13, 18, 20 21 and 22.

- That the officers of Defendants LIC and Arbitrage International Management (AIM), Simon and Ted Bernstein, made false and misleading representations to Plaintiff with respect to the compensation and distributions due him by falsely stating, among other things, that Defendants Bernstein as well as Plaintiff were not receiving full compensation when, in fact, Defendants Bernstein were being fully paid. *See*, paragraphs 21, 22 and 25.
- This concealment and other representations, and reliance thereon, induced Plaintiff to delay pursuing his rights until he did so by the filing of the Complaint in 2012. See, paragraph 25.

Plaintiff's Complaint clearly sets forth the ultimate facts supporting Plaintiff's claims against the Defendants. The Defendants' assertion that the Plaintiff's factual allegations as "confusing," "riddled with ambiguities," "vague," and "contradictory" (which they are not) is simply wrong.

2. <u>The Statute of Limitations Does Not Bar Plaintiff's Claims.</u> Defendants seek to dismiss the Counts alleging Accounting (Counts I and II), Breach of Oral Contract (Count III), Breach of Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing (Count IV), Breach of Fiduciary Duty (Count V), Fraud (Count VII), Equitable Lien (Count VIII), Contract Implied in Law (Count IX) and Constructive Trust (Count X) on the ground that these claims are barred by the four-year statute of limitations found in §95.11(3) Fla. Stat. (2012). Defendants contend the limitations period began to run prior to July 31, 2008 based solely on Plaintiff's allegation that Simon Bernstein made certain representations to him in "early 2008" (Complaint, Par. 21) and that Plaintiff represented that he had been deprived of his money due him for "approximately four and a half years" (Complaint, Par. 28). These statements, according to the Defendants,

somehow indicate that Plaintiff was aware of his claims prior to July 31, 2008, and thus they are now time barred.

Defendants' argument is fatally flawed for several reasons:

(a) These averments in the Complaint are clearly retrospective recollections made by Plaintiff as to the sequence of events that ultimately gave rise to his claims. They do not suggest that, at the time, Plaintiff realized, or should have realized, that any conduct by the Defendants was actionable.

(b) Defendants ignore the allegations of Paragraph 22 of the Complaint:

22. Through misrepresentations made from 2008 through the date of filing of this Complaint, Defendants knowingly made false statements to Plaintiff to hide their scheme to withhold from Plaintiff money to which he was entitled. For example, at times they claimed that money being received was not being paid as salary or distributions to either of Defendants BERNSTEIN but was being withheld and placed in a company account, for eventual distribution. As Plaintiff and Defendants could afford to wait until year's end to be paid their distributions, and as Defendants BERNSTEIN assured Plaintiff that the payment arrangement would apply to all three equally, Plaintiff did not question the truthfulness of their representations (emphasis added).

In light of these allegations, three things are readily apparent. First, Plaintiff has alleged that, due to the representations of the Bernstein Defendants, he was pursuaded to wait until the end of the year 2008 to be paid. As a result, the statute of limitations would not begin to run, at the earliest, until sometime after January 1, 2009 when he was not paid as promised. Therefore, these claims are timely filed. Secondly, Plaintiff is alleging he was induced to his detriment into delaying action on the Defendants failure to pay him by the false and fraudulent misrepresentations of the Bernsteins. Fraudulent misrepresentations operate to toll the statute of limitations. *See, San Pedro v. San Pedro*, 910 So. 2d 426, 430 (Fla. 4th DCA 2005). Further, if there is some question as to when the applicable statute of limitations began to run in this case,

the commencement date is a fact question for the trier of fact to resolve. See, J.A. Cantor Associates, Inc. v. Brenner, 363 So. 2d 204 (Fla. 3d DCA 1978).

For the foregoing reasons, Defendant's Motion to Dismiss based on the statute of limitations should be denied.

#### 3. Allegations Against Ted Bernstein Personally for Accounting

The allegations contained in paragraphs 11 through 25 of the Complaint clearly establish that the Bernstein Defendants and Ted Bernstein in particular, engaged in a campaign of misrepresentation and deceit with respect to their interaction and dealings with Plaintiff on compensation and ownership distribution issues. The Plaintiff admits, however, at least at this time, that the allegations against Ted Bernstein individually, as to an Accounting, as set forth in Count II, may be premature. As such, Plaintiff agrees to voluntarily dismiss that Count, without prejudice, at this time.

## 4. Dismissal of Count I for an Accounting Against LIC and AIM is Not Warranted.

The test in *Bankers Trust Realty, Inc. v. Kluger*, 672 So. 2d 897 (Fla. 3d DCA 1996), as set forth in Defendants' Motion, requires Plaintiff to allege that: 1) Plaintiff and Defendant shared a fiduciary relationship **OR** entered a complex transaction, and 2) a remedy at law is inadequate. Plaintiff contends that the parties entered into a complex transaction, and Plaintiff has alleged the existence of a fiduciary relationship (*see*, Count V). Plaintiff has also alleged that a remedy at law is inadequate (*see*, Count I, par. 28). As such, Plaintiff has met the pleading requirements of *Kluger* and has stated a cause of action for an accounting against the Corporate Defendants.

#### 5. <u>Plaintiff's claim for Breach of Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing</u> (Count IV) Will Be Dismissed at This Time without Prejudice

# 6. <u>Breach of Fiduciary Duty (Count V), Civil Theft (Count VI) and Fraud (Count VII)</u> <u>Are Not Barred by the Economic Loss Rule</u>

Claims for Breach of Fiduciary Duty and Civil Theft are causes of action arising under statutory law. The alleged Breach of fiduciary duty claim made by Plaintiff against the Defendants is supported by Florida law, including the fiduciary obligations of corporate officers and directors, which are specifically set forth in Florida Statutes §607, *et seq.* Civil Theft is articulated in Florida Statutes §772.11 (Complaint, Par. 48). The Plaintiff's Complaint has clearly stated a claim under that statute. The Supreme Court of Florida has unequivocally stated that the economic loss rule cannot be used to eliminate statutory causes of action. *See, Comptech International, Inc. v. Milam Commerce Park, LTD,* 753 So. 2d 1219 (Fla. 1999). Moreover, the economic loss rule does not abolish the cause of action for breach of fiduciary duty, even if there is an underlying contract. *See, Invo Florida, Inc. v. Somerset Venturer, Inc.,* 751 So. 2d 1263 (Fla. 3d DCA 2000).

As to Plaintiff's fraud claim against Defendants, the economic loss rule does not bar tort actions where a legal duty independent of the contract itself has been violated. *HTP, Ltd. v. Lineas Aereas Costarricenses, S.A.,* 685 So. 2d 1238, 1239 (Fla. 1996). In addition to the contract claims alleged, Plaintiff has specifically alleged that the Defendants deceived him into surrendering his 10% ownership interest in LIC. The fraudulent misrepresentations and subsequent reliance by plaintiff constitute an independent claim that is not related to the contract. Therefore, the fraud claim is not barred by the economic loss rule.

# 7. <u>The Breach of Fiduciary Duty (Count V) and Fraud (Count VII) Claims</u> Should Not Be Dismissed.

For the reasons set forth in paragraphs 8 and 9 below, the Plaintiff's breach of fiduciary duty and fraud claims against the Defendants should clearly not be dismissed.

#### 8. The Breach of Fiduciary Duty Claim (Count V) States a Cause of Action.

Florida law provides that corporate officers and directors owe a duty of loyalty and a duty of care to the corporation and its shareholders. *Cohen v. Hattaway*, 595 So.2d 105 (Fla. 5th DCA 1992). In particular, Fla. Stat. § 607.0830 provides:

(1) A director shall discharge his or her duties as a director ...

- (a) In good faith;
- (b) With the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances; and
- (c) In a manner he or she reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the corporation.

These fiduciary duties are generally described as the duties of care and the duty of loyalty. See, In re Aqua Clear Technologies, Inc., 361 B.R. 567, 575 (Bankr. S.D. Fla. 2007). Each of these duties is of equal and independent significance. Id. The duty of care requires the directors of a company to act on an informed basis. Id. The duty of loyalty requires the officer or director to act in good faith and in the best interests of the company. Fla. Stat. § 607.0830(1)(c); In re Aqua Clear Technologies, Inc., 361 B.R. 567. A corporate officer or director breaches the duty of loyalty if that person "depart[s] from his corporate responsibility and start[s] serving himself." In re Aqua Clear Technologies, Inc., 361 B.R. at 575, citing Intercarga Internacional de Carga, S.A. v. Harper Group, Inc., 659 So.2d 1208, 1210 (Fla. 3d DCA 1995). An officer or director may be held "strictly accountable and liable if corporate funds or property are wasted or mismanaged due to their inattention to their duties." Id.

In this case, the Complaint specifically alleges that Simon and Ted Bernstein owned and controlled the corporate Defendants (LIC and AIM), worked closely together with respect thereto, and were one another's alter egos. (Complaint, Par. 6) As such, the Bernsteins are (or were at the time the claims arose - Simon Bernstein is now deceased) clearly both "officers and directors" of the corporate Defendants and exclusively made all decisions regarding the operations of these corporate Defendants. The Complaint also alleges that both Bernsteins made false and misleading misrepresentations to Plaintiff, an employee and minority shareholder of Defendant LIC, relating to Plaintiff's compensation and distributions on his ownership interest. and the Bernsteins falsely stated that their compensation was being withheld and maintained by the corporation, the same as Plaintiff's, when in reality they had paid themselves. (Complaint, Pars. 20, 22) It has also been alleged that the Bernsteins intercepted mail addressed to the Plaintiff and converted checks intended for Plaintiff for their own personal use or the use of the corporate Defendants. (Complaint, Par. 23) All these allegations were expressly incorporated by reference into Count V. (Complaint, Par. 41) This conduct clearly establishes a claim for breach of fiduciary duty as to the Bernsteins. As officers/directors, they failed to act in good faith and in the best interests of the company or its employee/minority shareholder, the Plaintiff, and breached their duty of loyalty when they departed from their corporate responsibilities and started serving themselves. Accordingly, Defendants' Motion to Dismiss the claim for breach of fiduciary duty should be denied.

#### 9. The Civil Theft Claim (Count VI) States a Cause of Action.

As stated in Paragraph 8, above, the Complaint alleges that the Bernsteins intercepted mail addressed to the Plaintiff and converted checks intended for Plaintiff for their own personal use or the use of the corporate Defendants. (Complaint, Par. 23). All these allegations were

expressly incorporated by reference into the Civil Theft claim, Count VI (Complaint, Par. 49) and were included in the all-inclusive references contained in Par. 50. Paragraph 51 makes specific reference to the Defendants' criminal intent consistent with *Palmer v. Gotta Have It Golf Collectibles, Inc.*, 106 F. Supp.2d 1289 (S.D. Fla. 2000) a case cited and relied on by Defendants at p. 15 of Defendants' Motion. While not using the specific language "sophisticated scheme of deceit and theft," that is the gist of Plaintiff's claim as alleged in Paragraph 51 and in the Fraud claim, Count VII (Par. 58). Finally, other than the general allegation relating to the failure to pay due compensation, the allegation of specific, identifiable checks made payable to Plaintiff that were converted by the Bernstein defendants is sufficient to meet the "specific money capable of identification" requirement of *Belford Trucking Company v. Zagar*, 243 So. 2d 646, 648 (Fla. 4th DCA 1970), and cited in the Defendants' Motion at p. 15. For these reasons, the Motion to Dismiss the Civil Theft count should be denied.

#### 10. The Fraud Claim (Count VII) States a Cause of Action

In order to sufficiently plead a fraud claim in Florida, the pleader must allege: a) a false representation of fact, known by the party making it to be false at the time it was made; (b) that the representation was made for the purpose of inducing another to act in reliance on it; (c) actual reliance on the representation; and (d) resulting in damage to the plaintiff. *Essex Ins. Co., Inc. v. Universal Entertainment & Skating Center, Inc.,* 665 So. 2d 360 (Fla. 5th DCA 1995). *See also, Peninsular Fla. Dist. Council of Assemblies of God v. Pan American Investment and Development Corp.,* 450 So. 2d 1231 (Fla. 4th DCA 1984).

In this case, Plaintiff's Complaint has alleged sufficient, particular facts to state a cause of action for fraud. Paragraphs 11 through 25 set out in detail the misrepresentations and falsehoods stated by the Bernstein Defendants in their interaction and business discussions with Plaintiff, all of which were incorporated by reference into the Count VII by Par. 53. Of

particular interest is Paragraph 24, which alleges how Defendants deceived Plaintiff into surrendering his 10% interest in LIC, which he did. It is also alleged that the Defendants intended for Plaintiff to rely on the false statements (or omissions of fact), that these statements or omissions were material, that Plaintiff relied on these falsehoods and was damaged thereby. *See*, Complaint, Pars. 47, 56, 57. Plaintiff was damaged by these false representations when he was denied his due compensation and, more importantly, when he surrendered his ownership interest in the LIC. The Motion to Dismiss as to Count VII should be denied.

# 11. The Equitable Lien (Count VIII), Constructive Trust (Count X), the Contract Implied in Law (Count VIII), and the Indemnification (Count XI) Claim Will Be Dismissed At This Time Without Prejudice.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests this Honorable Court to deny Defendants' Motion to Dismiss as to Counts I, III, V, VI and VII, and such other relief as this Court deems just and proper.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

WE HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing has been forwarded via e-mail service at <u>swergoldj@gtlaw.com</u>; <u>arnsdorffk@gtlaw.com</u>; <u>steffesj@gtlaw.com</u>; and <u>FLService@gtlaw.com</u> to Jon Swergold, Esq., Greenberg Traurig, P.A., 401 East Las Olas Blvd., Suite 2000, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301; and at <u>kdstern@gmail.com</u> to Kenneth D. Stern, Esq., Kenneth D. Stern, P.A., 3615 W. Boynton Beach Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL 33436 this <u>day</u> of January, 2013.

PETER M. FEAMAN, P.A. 3615 W. Boynton Beach Blvd. Boynton Beach, FL 33436 Tel: 561-734-5552 Fax: 561-734-5554 pfeaman@feamanlaw.com

Bv: Peter M. Feaman

Florida Bar No.: 0260347

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL IN RE: ESTATE OF PROBATE DIVISION SIMON BERNSTEIN, File No. 50 2012 CP 004391 12 XXXX SB Deceased.

#### ORDER EXTENDING TIME TO FILE INVENTORY

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THIS CAUSE, having come before the Court upon the Petition of Robert L. Spallina and Donald R. Tescher, as co-personal representatives of the Estate of Simon Bernstein, deceased, for an extension of time to file the Inventory of the estate, and the Court having reviewed the Petition and being otherwise duly advised in the premises it is hereby

ADJUDGED that an extension of time is granted up until <u>60 daup</u> in which to file the Inventory in this cause.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Delray Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, this

day of Januar \_, 2012.

Circuit Judge

cc: Robert L. Spallina, Esquire

NIWPDATA

STAMPED EN PROVIDED

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO: 502012CA013933XXXXMB AA

ORDER ON DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, MOTION FOR MORE DEFINITE <u>STATEMENT</u>

WILLIAM E. STANSBURY,

Plaintiff,

vs.

TED S. BERNSTEIN, SIMON BERNSTEIN, LIC HOLDINGS, INC., and ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., f/k/a ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, L.L.C.,

Defendants.

THIS CAUSE having come before the Court on January 14, 2013, on Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Or, In The Alternative, Motion For More Definite Statement (the "Motion"), and Plaintiff's Response in Opposition to the Motion, and the Court having heard argument of counsel, and being otherwise fully advised, does hereby

#### **ORDER and ADJUDGE:**

1. Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Count I is hereby DENIED.

2. Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Count III is hereby GRANTED without prejudice.

3. Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Count V is hereby GRANTED without prejudice.

4. Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Count VI is hereby GRANTED without prejudice.

5. Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Count VII is hereby GRANTED without prejudice.

Copies furnished by e-mail

#### CASE NO: 502012CA013933XXXXMB AA

6. Plaintiff has agreed to voluntarily withdraw Count II (Accounting - Against Ted Bernstein and Simon Bernstein), Count IV (Breach of Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing - Against All Defendants), Count VIII (Equitable Lien - Against All Defendants), Count IX (Contract Implied in Law - Against All Defendants), Count X (Constructive Trust - Against All Defendants) and Count XI (Indemnification - Against All Defendants) without prejudice.

7. That part of the Motion to Dismiss asserting the Statute of Limitations is hereby denied.

8. The Court finds that Defendants' request for legal fees and costs under Florida Statute §§ 772.11 and 812.035(7) due to the Court's dismissal of Count VI (Civil Theft) with leave to amend is premature at this time.

 Plaintiff shall have twenty (20) days from the date of this Order to amend his Complaint.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers, West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County Florida this <u>23</u><sup>(1)</sup>day of January, 2013.

HON. GLENN D. KELLEY

HON. GLENN D. KELLEY CIRCUIT JUDGE

Copies to:

1

Jon Swergold, Esq., Greenberg Traurig, P.A., 401 East Las Olas Blvd., Suite 2000, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301; <u>swergoldj@gtlaw.com</u>; <u>ciaffik@gtlaw.com</u>; and Peter M. Feaman, Esq., Peter M. Feaman, P.A., 3615 W. Boynton Beach Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL; <u>pfeaman@feamanlaw.com</u>; <u>kdstern@gmail.com</u>.

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

#### CASE NO: 50 2012 CA 013933 MB AA

v.

TED S. BERNSTEIN; SIMON BERNSTEIN; LIC HOLDINGS, INC.; and ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT, LLC, f/k/a ARBITRAGE INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, LLC.

WILLIAM E. STANSBURY,

Plaintiff,

Defendants.



# NOTICE OF CANCELATION OF HEARING

(Motion Calendar)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned attorney for Plaintiff, WILLIAM

STANSBURY, has CANCELED the hearing in the following matter:

Matter: [Plaintiff's] Motion for Substitution of Party

Date: Monday Thursday, January 31, 2013 (original Notice contained a scrivener's error)

Time: 8:45 a.m.

Place: Honorable Glenn D. Kelley Courtroom 11A Palm Beach County Circuit Court 205 No. Dixie Highway West Palm Beach, FL 33401

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

WE HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing has been forwarded via e-mail service at swergoldj@gtlaw.com; arnsdorffk@gtlaw.com; steffesj@gtlaw.com; FLService@gtlaw.com to Jon Swergold, Esq., Greenberg Traurig, P.A., 401 East Las Olas Blvd., Suite 2000, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301; and at rspallina@tescherspallina.com to Robert L. Spallina, Esq., Counsel forDonald Tescher, Personal Representative of the Estate of Simon Bernstein, Tescher & Spallina, P.A., 4855 Technology Way, Suite 720, Boca Raton, FL 33431 on this <u>30</u> day of January, 2013.

> PETER M. FEAMAN, P.A. 3615 W. Boynton Beach Blvd. Boynton Beach, FL 33436 Tel: 561-734-5552 Fax: 561-734-5554 pfeaman@feamanlaw.com

By:

Peter M. Feaman Florida Bar No.: 0260347

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

IN RE: ESTATE OF PROBATE DIVISION

SIMON BERNSTEIN, File No. 50 2012 CP 004391 IZ XXXX SB

Deceased.

#### **OBJECTION TO CLAIM OF** WILLIAM E. STANSBURY

ROBERT L. SPALLINA and DONALD R. TESCHER, being co-personal representatives of the above estate, by and through his undersigned counsel, hereby objects to the Claim of William E. Stansbury in excess of \$2.5 million dollars, filed in this proceeding.

The claimant is limited to a period of thirty (30) days from the date of service of this objection within which to bring an action on the Claim, as provided in Section 733.705 of the Florida Probate Code. An "action" means an action separate from this probate proceeding in the appropriate court. "Service" of this Objection, if made by mail, is complete upon mailing (and the date is noted below); however, an additional five (5) days are added to the initial thirty (30) day period.

IF YOU FAIL TO BRING SUCH AN ACTION WITHIN THE TIME STATED, NO ACTION OR PROCEEDING ON THE CLAIM MAY BE BROUGHT AGAINST THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, AND THE CLAIM IS THEREAFTER FOREVER BARRED WITHOUT ANY COURT ORDER.

ICERTIFY that a copy of this Objection to Claim was mailed by United States registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, to the Claimant at the following address: Peter M. Feaman, Esq., 3615 West Boynton Beach Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL 33436, this  $\underline{\checkmark}$  day of February, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted, TESCHER & SPALLINA PA By:

ROBERT L. SPALLINA, ESQUIRE Florida Bar No. 49738 4855 Technology Way, Ste. 720 Boca Raton, FL 33431 561-997-7008 email: rspallina@tescherspallina.com



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