201 MAR 22 A A BRIGID S. MARTIN (CA Bar No. 231705) JACKLIN CHOU LEM (CA Bar No. 255293) MAY LEE HEYE (CA Bar No. 209366) Antitrust Division U.S. Department of Justice 3 450 Golden Gate Avenue Box 36046, Room 10-0101 San Francisco, CA 94102 E-filing Telephone: (415) 436-6660 Attorneys for the United States 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION 0166 10 11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA No. CR 12 INFORMATION 13 ٧. VIOLATION: 14 Title 15, United States Code, CHIEN CHUNG CHEN, Section 1 (Price Fixing) a/k/a ANDREW CHEN, 15 San Francisco Venue Defendant. 16 17 The United States of America, acting through its attorneys, charges: 18 1. 19 DESCRIPTION OF THE OFFENSE 20 ANDREW CHEN ("defendant") is made a defendant on the charge stated 1. 21 22 below: From in or about September 2003 until in or about September 2005, the 2. 23 defendant and coconspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy in the 24 United States and elsewhere to suppress and eliminate competition by fixing the prices of 25 aftermarket auto lights. The combination and conspiracy engaged in by the defendant and his 26 coconspirators was an unreasonable restraint of interstate and foreign trade and commerce in 27 violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. § 1). The defendant knowingly joined 28

INFORMATION – Andrew Chen – 1

and participated in the charged conspiracy from as early as September 2003 until in or about September 2005.

- 3. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of a continuing agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and coconspirators, the substantial terms of which were to agree to fix the prices of aftermarket auto lights.
- 4. For the purpose of forming and carrying out the charged combination and conspiracy, the defendant and coconspirators did those things that they combined and conspired to do, including, among other things:
 - (a) participated in meetings, conversations, and communications in Taiwan, the United States, and elsewhere to discuss the prices of aftermarket auto lights;
 - (b) agreed, during those meetings, conversations, and communications, to charge prices of aftermarket auto lights at certain predetermined levels;
 - (c) issued price announcements and price lists in accordance with the agreements reached;
 - (d) collected and exchanged information on prices and sales of aftermarket auto lights for the purpose of monitoring and enforcing adherence to the agreed-upon prices; and
 - (e) took steps to conceal the conspiracy and conspiratorial contacts, conversations, and communications through various means.

II.

DEFENDANTS AND COCONSPIRATORS

5. During the time period covered by this Information, Defendant ANDREW CHEN was Executive Vice President of Company A, an entity organized and existing under the laws of California. During the time period covered by this Information, Company A was a major United States distributor of auto lights produced by Company B, an entity organized and existing under the laws of Taiwan. Company A, during the time period covered by this Information, was engaged in the business of selling aftermarket auto lights produced by

Company B to customers in the United States and elsewhere.

- 6. Various corporations and individuals, not made defendants in this Information, participated as coconspirators in the offense charged in this Information and performed acts and made statements in furtherance of it.
- 7. Whenever in this Information reference is made to any act, deed, or transaction of any corporation, the allegation means that the corporation engaged in the act, deed, or transaction by or through its officers, directors, employees, agents, or other representatives while they were actively engaged in the management, direction, control, or transaction of its business or affairs.

III.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

- 8. Aftermarket auto lights are lights incorporated into an automobile after its original sale, usually as repairs following a collision, but also as accessories and upgrades.

 Lighting components include items such as headlights, taillights, fog lights, turn signals, brake signals, and reflectors.
- 9. During the period covered by this Information, Companies A and B and coconspirators sold and distributed aftermarket auto lights in a continuous and uninterrupted flow of interstate and foreign trade and commerce to customers located in states or countries other than the states or countries in which Companies A and B and coconspirators produced aftermarket auto lights.
- 10. During the period covered by this Information, the business activities of the defendant and coconspirators that are the subject of this Information were within the flow of, and substantially affected, interstate and foreign trade and commerce.

1 JURISDICTION AND VENUE 2 The combination and conspiracy charged in this Information was carried out, in 3 11. part, in the Northern District of California, within the five years preceding the filing of this Information, excluding the period during which the statute of limitations has been suspended pursuant to two agreements with Defendant ANDREW CHEN. 6 ALL IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1. 7 8 9 Christine A. Varney Assistant Attorney General 10 11 12 Scott D. Hammond Deputy Assistant Attorney General 13 14 U.S. Department of Justice 15 Antitrust Division 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 Melinda L. Haag United States Attorney 24 Northern District of California 25 26 27

Chief, San Francisco Office

Peter K. Huston Assistant Chief, San Francisco Office

Jacklin Chou Lem May Lee Heye Attorneys U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division 450 Golden Gate Avenue Box 36046, Room 10-0101 San Francisco, CA 94102 (415) 436-6660

28