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300 AUG - 4 7 9 16 NIALL E. LYNCH (State Bar No. 157959) 1 MICHAEL L. SCOTT (State Bar No. 165452) 2 HEATHER S. TEWKSBURY (State Bar No. 222202) Antitrust Division U.S. Department of Justice 450 Golden Gate Avenue Box 36046, Room 10-0101 4 San Francisco, CA 94102 Telephone: (415) 436-6660 5 Attorneys for the United States 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 9 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION 0591 11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA INFORMATION 12 ٧. 13 VIOLATION: 14 Title 15, United States Code, CHEN-LUNG KUO, Section 1 (Price Fixing) 15 Defendant. San Francisco Venue 16 17 The United States of America, acting through its attorneys, charges: 18 I. 19 DESCRIPTION OF THE OFFENSE 20 CHEN-LUNG KUO ("defendant") is made a defendant on the charge stated below. 1. 21 2. From on or about September 14, 2001 to on or about December 1, 2006, Chi Mei 22 Optoelectronics Corporation ("Chi Mei"), and coconspirators entered into and engaged in a 23 combination and conspiracy to suppress and eliminate competition by fixing the prices of thin-film 24 transistor liquid crystal display panels ("TFT-LCD") sold in the United States and elsewhere. The 25 combination and conspiracy engaged in by Chi Mei and coconspirators was an unreasonable restraint 26 of interstate and foreign trade and commerce in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. 27 § 1). The defendant knowingly joined and participated in the charged conspiracy from as early as 28 INFORMATION -- KUO -- 1

April 1, 2004, to on or about December 1, 2006.

- 3. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of a continuing agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant, Chi Mei, and coconspirators, the substantial terms of which were to agree to fix the prices of TFT-LCD.
- 4. For the purpose of forming and carrying out the charged combination and conspiracy, the defendant, Chi Mei, and coconspirators did those things that they combined and conspired to do, including, among other things:
  - (a) participating in meetings, conversations, and communications in Taiwan,Korea, and the United States to discuss the prices of TFT-LCD;
  - (b) agreeing, during those meetings, conversations, and communications, to charge prices of TFT-LCD at certain predetermined levels;
  - (c) issuing price quotations in accordance with the agreements reached;
  - (d) exchanging information on sales of TFT-LCD, for the purpose of monitoring and enforcing adherence to the agreed-upon prices; and
  - (e) authorizing, ordering, and consenting to the participation of subordinate employees in the conspiracy.

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## **DEFENDANT\_AND COCONSPIRATORS**

- 5 Chi Mei was a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Taiwan and was engaged in the business of producing and selling TFT-LCD to customers in the United States and elsewhere during the time period covered by this Information. CHEN-LUNG KUO was Associate Vice President and Vice President of Sales for Chi Mei during the period covered by this Information.
- 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

INFORMATION -- KUO -- 2

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engaged in the management, direction, control, or transaction of its business or affairs.

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INFORMATION -- KUO -- 3

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## TRADE AND COMMERCE

- 8. TFT-LCD are glass panels composed of an array of tiny pixels that are electronically manipulated in order to display images. TFT-LCD are manufactured in a broad range of sizes and specifications for use in televisions, notebook computers, desktop monitors, mobile devices, and other applications.
- 9. During the period covered by this Information, the defendant, Chi Mei, and coconspirators sold and distributed TFT-LCD 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 the defendant, Chi Mei, and their coconspirators produced TFT-LCD.
- 10. The business activities of the defendant, Chi Mei, and coconspirators that are the subject of this Information were within the flow of, and substantially affected, interstate and foreign trade and commerce.

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1 2 3 11. 4 ALL IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1. 5 6 7 8 Assistant Attorney General 9 10 Scott D. Hammond Deputy Assistant Attorney General 11 12 13 Marc Siegel Director of Criminal Enforcement 14 United States Department of Justice 15 **Antitrust Division** 16 17 18 eph P. Russoniello FRE SPA 19 hited States Attorney Northern District of California 20

IV.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

The combination and conspiracy charged in this Information was carried out, in part, in the Northern District of California, within the five years preceding the filing of this Information.

Chief, San Francisco Office

Niall E. Lynch Michael L. Scott Heather S. Tewksbury

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INFORMATION -- KUO -- 4