	Case 3:21-cv-08735 Document 1	Filed 11/10/21 Page 1 of 11						
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16	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT							
17	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA							
18								
19	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	CASE NO. 21-8735						
20	Plaintiff,							
21	v.	COMPLAINT						
22		DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL						
23	UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.							
24	Defendant.							
25	Plaintiff United States of America brings this action to enforce Title III of the Americans with							
26	Disabilities Act ("ADA"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 12181-89, as amended, and its implementing regulation, 49 C.F.R. Part 37, against Defendant Uber Technologies, Inc. ("Defendant" or "Uber"). The ADA							
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prohibits discrimination based on disability by a private entity that is primarily engaged in the business
 of transporting people and whose operations affect commerce. 42 U.S.C. § 12184(a). The United States
 alleges as follows:

#### **BACKGROUND**

5 1. Uber discriminates against passengers with disabilities and potential passengers with
6 disabilities in violation of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12181-89, and its implementing regulation, 49 C.F.R.
7 Part 37, through its policies and practices of imposing "wait time" fees on passengers with disabilities
8 who, because of disability, require more time than that allotted by Uber to board the vehicle.

9 2. In violation of the ADA, Uber has failed to (1) ensure adequate vehicle boarding time for
10 passengers with disabilities; (2) ensure equitable fares for passengers with disabilities; and (3) make
11 reasonable modifications to its policies and practices of imposing wait time fees as applied to passengers
12 who, because of disability, require more time to board the vehicle. *See* 49 C.F.R. §§ 37.167(i), 37.29(c),
13 and 37.5(d), (f); 42 U.S.C. § 12184(a), (b)(2)(A); *see also* 28 C.F.R. § 36.302 (incorporated by reference
14 in 49 C.F.R. § 37.5(f)).

3. The Attorney General has commenced this action based on a determination that Uber has
engaged in a pattern or practice of discrimination and a determination that a person or group of persons
has been discriminated against, and that such discrimination raises an issue of general public
importance. 42 U.S.C. § 12188(b)(1)(B). The United States seeks declaratory and injunctive relief,
monetary damages, including compensatory and emotional distress damages, and a civil penalty against
Uber.

4. Congress enacted the ADA in 1990 "to provide a clear and comprehensive national
mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities." 42 U.S.C.
§ 12101(b)(1). In enacting the ADA, Congress found that discrimination against individuals with
disabilities persists in transportation. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 12101(a)(3).

5. The ADA's prohibition against discrimination in specified public transportation services
provided by private entities, such as Uber, is essential to furthering the ADA's purpose "to invoke the

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sweep of congressional authority . . . to address the major areas of discrimination faced day-to-day by
 people with disabilities." 42 U.S.C. § 12101(b)(4).

#### **PARTIES**

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Plaintiff is the United States of America.

7. Defendant Uber is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 1515 3rd
Street, San Francisco, California 94158. In this complaint, "Uber" refers to Uber Technologies, Inc. and
any of its subsidiary companies or operationally distinct segments that are responsible for Uber's
provision of transportation services. *See* 49 C.F.R. § 37.37(f) (nondiscrimination requirements apply to
any subsidiary company or operationally distinct segment of a parent company that is primarily engaged
in the provision of transportation services).

8. Uber is a for-profit company that provides transportation services to individuals
throughout the United States. Passengers request transportation through Uber's mobile software
application, and Uber arranges rides between passengers and a fleet of drivers.

9. While Uber does not own all the vehicles in this fleet, Uber maintains control over
vehicle specifications, driver qualifications, the amount each passenger must pay, and the general ride
experience for each trip.

17 10. As Uber and other similar providers have gained popularity over traditional taxi services
18 as the primary option for on-demand transportation, Uber plays an important role in ensuring
19 independence for countless people with disabilities who choose to – or simply must – rely on its services
20 to travel.

11. Uber provides "specified public transportation services," which the ADA defines as
"transportation by . . . any [] conveyance (other than by aircraft) that provides the general public with
general or special service (including charter service) on a regular and continuing basis." 42 U.S.C.
§ 12181(10); see also 49 C.F.R. § 37.3.

25 12. Uber is a private entity primarily engaged in the business of transporting people, and its
26 operations affect commerce. *See* 42 U.S.C. §§ 12181(1), (6), 12184(a) and 49 C.F.R. § 37.3.

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13. Uber is a private entity that provides taxi and other transportation services that involve 1 calling for a vehicle and a driver to take an individual to a place or places. See 49 C.F.R. § 37.29; see 2 also 49 pt. 37, app. D § 37.29. 3 14. Uber provided 2.3 billion trips in the United States from 2017-2018, including more than 4 3.1 million individual trips per day. 5 6 JURISDICTION AND VENUE 7 15. This Court has jurisdiction over this action under the ADA, 42 U.S.C. § 12188(b)(1)(B), 8 and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1345, because it involves claims arising under federal law and is commenced 9 by the United States. 10 16. The Court may grant declaratory relief and other necessary or proper relief pursuant to 28 11 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202, and may grant equitable relief, monetary damages, and a civil penalty 12 pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12188(b)(2). 13 17. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Uber operates, 14 resides and has its principal place of business in this district, and a substantial part of the events or 15 omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this district. 16 Divisional Assignment. Assignment to the San Francisco or Oakland Division is proper 18. 17 under Civil L.R. 3-2(c) because Uber is headquartered in San Francisco and a substantial part of the 18 events or omissions that give rise to the claims occurred therein. 19 FACTS 20 Uber's Policies and Practices of Imposing Wait Time Fees on Passengers Who, Because of **Disability, Require More Time to Board the Uber Vehicle** 21 22 19. In April 2016, Uber launched a new policy of charging passengers wait time fees in 23 limited locations throughout the United States. 24 20. Under this policy, Uber charges wait time fees starting two minutes after the Uber vehicle 25 arrives at the pickup location, and the fees are charged until the vehicle begins its trip. 26 27 28 COMPLAINT 4

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121.Uber later expanded its policy to apply to all cities in the United States where Uber2operates.

3 22. Uber has publicly stated that the amount of the wait time fee charged depends on the
4 passenger's city and the category of Uber service the passenger is taking.

5 23. The two-minute window before which wait time fees are charged begins when Uber
6 determines via the global positioning system, or GPS, that the driver has arrived at the pickup location.

7 24. Uber drivers do not have discretion related to wait time fees to indicate when they have
8 arrived at the pick-up location.

9 25. Uber drivers do not have discretion to waive a wait time fee.

26. Many passengers with disabilities require more than two minutes to board or load into a
vehicle for various reasons, including because they may use mobility aids and devices such as
wheelchairs and walkers that need to be broken down and stored in the vehicle or because they simply
need additional time to board the vehicle.

14 27. Passengers with disabilities who take longer than two minutes to board or load into the
15 vehicle are charged a wait time fee regardless of the reason that it takes them longer than two minutes to
16 begin the trip.

17 28. Upon request, Uber has issued wait time fee refunds to some passengers with disabilities.
18 29. Uber, however, has also denied wait time fee refunds to some passengers with disabilities
19 even after being informed that the fees were charged because of their disabilities.

20 Uber Discriminates Against Passengers and Potential Passengers Who, Because of Disability, Are Charged or Are Aware That They Would Be Charged Wait Time Fees
 21

30. Uber's policies and practices of charging wait time fees based on disability have

23 impacted many passengers and potential passengers with disabilities throughout the country, including:

# Passenger A

31. Passenger A is a 52-year-old woman who lives in Miami, Florida.

- 32. In 2012, Passenger A sustained spinal cord injuries that resulted in quadriplegia.
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33. Because she does not walk, Passenger A uses a manual wheelchair, which she propels by
 pushing on round bars that surround the wheel. Her manual wheelchair also has a handle on the back
 that can be pushed by another person.

4 34. A person can fold up Passenger A's manual wheelchair by gripping the front and the
5 back of the seat with each hand and pulling up so that the wheelchair collapses like an accordion. When
6 collapsed, her wheelchair can be stored in the trunk of a standard vehicle.

7 35. In May 2020, Passenger A relocated to Louisville, Kentucky to participate in a yearlong
8 clinical study and rehabilitation program for spinal cord injuries at the University of Louisville. She
9 moved to an apartment in downtown Louisville, which is approximately five city blocks away from the
10 rehabilitation center.

36. During her year in Louisville, Passenger A received full-time nursing assistance from
nurses who helped her with personal care, as well as transferring to and from her wheelchair and storing
her wheelchair in the trunk of a vehicle when she took car trips.

14 37. Passenger A relied on Uber for transportation from her apartment to the rehabilitation
15 facility and back home again following her appointment.

16 38. Passenger A took an Uber vehicle to and from her rehabilitation appointments
17 approximately ten times each week.

39. Because her rehabilitation appointment took place at the same time every day, Passenger
A developed a consistent routine for requesting an Uber vehicle. Fifteen minutes before her
appointment time when she was ready to leave, she went to the lobby of her apartment building or
waited in front of the building and requested an Uber vehicle from her phone.

40. When the Uber vehicle arrived, Passenger A promptly began the process of boarding the vehicle. Her nursing assistant used a sliding board to help her transfer and slide into the backseat of the vehicle. The assistant then assisted with moving Passenger A's legs into the vehicle and buckling the safety belt over her. The assistant next collapsed Passenger A's wheelchair and stored it in the trunk of the Uber vehicle. On average, it took Passenger A at least five minutes from start to finish to board an Uber vehicle.

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In August 2020, Passenger A first noticed that Uber was consistently charging her wait
 time fees for her daily rides.

3 42. Passenger A then examined all of her past Uber receipts and realized she had been
4 charged a wait time fee for every ride she had taken with Uber since she relocated to Louisville in May
5 2020.

6 43. Because she had limited options for getting to her daily rehabilitation appointments,
7 Passenger A continued to take Uber every day and continued to be charged wait time fees for every ride
8 she took there.

9 44. Passenger A attempted to request a refund of the wait time fees from Uber through a
10 variety of means. When she could not locate a phone number to directly contact Uber, she posted a
11 message on her Twitter account using Uber's Twitter handle (@Uber). Passenger A also sent emails to
12 Uber's customer service email account.

45. An Uber employee eventually responded to Passenger A and told her that the wait time
fees were automatic and therefore Uber could not do anything to prevent them from being charged if
Passenger A exceeded the two-minute time limit for any reason.

46. Passenger A has not received a refund for any of the wait time fees she has been assessed.
47. Passenger A felt angry and upset that Uber has charged her wait time fees for her daily
rides to her rehabilitation appointments. Uber's refusal to refund her money or to change its wait time
fee policy makes Passenger A feel like a second-class citizen.

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#### Passenger B

48. Passenger B is a 34-year-old man with cerebral palsy. He formerly lived in Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania. In May 2019, Passenger B moved to Queens, a borough of New York City, New York, to
accept a new job.

49. Although he can walk short distances, Passenger B primarily uses a manual wheelchair
for mobility purposes. The wheelchair can be collapsed and folded up when it needs to be stored in the
trunk of a car.

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50. Prior to his relocation to New York in May 2019, Passenger B frequently used Uber for
 his transportation needs because he does not drive. Passenger B relied on Uber to provide transportation
 to visit friends and family, to commute to work occasionally, and to take him to social and leisure
 activities.

5 51. Passenger B requests an Uber vehicle only when he is ready to be picked up and begin
6 his trip. However, it takes Passenger B longer than two minutes to board the Uber vehicle because he
7 must fold up his wheelchair and store it in the vehicle of the trunk, which often requires the driver's
8 assistance.

9 52. In or around September 2018, Passenger B noticed on the receipts he received from Uber
10 that he had been charged a wait time fee on multiple occasions.

11 53. Passenger B reviewed his receipts and determined that Uber had charged him a wait time
12 fee nearly every time he had used Uber since January 2018.

54. When Passenger B contacted Uber's customer service about the wait time fees, Uber
initially refunded the fees he had been charged. However, after he received a certain amount of refunds,
a customer service associate informed him that he had reached the maximum amount of refunds and
Uber would no longer issue him any additional refunds.

17 55. Passenger B felt angry, frustrated, and upset when he found out that Uber had charged
18 him wait time fees because of his disability and refused to provide refunds after previously providing
19 refunds.

20 56. Similar to Passengers A and B, other individuals with disabilities throughout the country
21 have likewise been discriminated against by Uber by being charged wait time fees because of their
22 disabilities.

23 57. Other potential Uber passengers with disabilities know of Uber's wait time fees and will
24 not use Uber because of those fees.

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### <u>CAUSE OF ACTION</u> Violation of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act

2 58. The United States re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in the
3 preceding paragraphs.

4 59. Uber discriminates against passengers with disabilities and potential passengers with
5 disabilities, in violation of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12181-89, and
6 its implementing regulation, 49 C.F.R. Part 37, through its policies and practices of imposing wait time
7 fees on passengers with disabilities who, because of disability, require more time to board the vehicle.

8 60. Uber's violations of the ADA amount to a pattern or practice of discrimination. Its
9 discrimination against a person or group of persons raises an issue of general public importance. Such
10 discrimination includes Uber's failure to:

a. Ensure adequate boarding time for passengers with disabilities, in violation of 42
U.S.C. § 12184(a) and 49 C.F.R. § 37.167(i);

b. Ensure equitable fares for transporting passengers with disabilities, in violation of
42 U.S.C. § 12184(a) and 49 C.F.R. §§ 37.5(d), 37.29(c);

c. Make reasonable modifications to its policies, practices, and procedures of
charging a wait time fee as applied to passengers who, because of disability, require more time to board
the vehicle. See 42 U.S.C. § 12184(a), (b)(2)(A); 49 C.F.R. § 37.5(f); see also 28 C.F.R. § 36.302
(incorporated by reference in 49 C.F.R. § 37.5(f)).

19 61. Passengers with disabilities and potential passengers with disabilities have been harmed
20 and continue to be harmed by Uber's alleged violations of the ADA, and are entitled to monetary
21 damages, including compensatory and emotional distress damages. 42 U.S.C. § 12188.

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## **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

Plaintiff United States prays this Court:

A. Grant judgment in favor of the United States and declare that Uber's actions, policies,
and practices, as alleged in this complaint, violate Title III of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12181-89, and its
implementing regulation, 49 C.F.R. Part 37;

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B. Enjoin Uber, its officers, agents, employees, drivers, and all others in concert or in
 participation with it, from engaging in discrimination against individuals with disabilities, and from
 failing to comply with Title III of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12181-89, and its implementing regulation, 49
 C.F.R. Part 37;

C. Order Uber to modify its policies, practices, and procedures, including its wait time fee
policy, to comply with Title III of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12181-89, and its implementing regulation, 49
C.F.R. Part 37;

8 D. Order Uber to provide ADA training to its officers, agents, employees, drivers, and all
9 others in concert or in participation with it;

10E.Award monetary damages, including compensatory damages for emotional distress and11other injuries, to persons aggrieved by Uber's actions or failures to act, pursuant to 42 U.S.C.

12 § 12188(b)(2)(B);

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F. Assess a civil penalty against Uber pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12188(b)(2)(C), to vindicate
the public interest; and

G. Order such other appropriate relief as the interests of justice may require, together with
the United States' costs and disbursements in this action.

# **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury as to all issues.

	Case 3:21-cv-08735 Document 1	Filed 11/10/21 Page 11 of 11
1	1 Dated: November 10, 2021	
2 3	Respectfully submitted,	
4		Kristen Clarke
5	5 Acting United States Attorney Assi	STEN CLARKE stant Attorney General
6		Rights Division
7	7	
8	8 REB Chie	ECCA B. BOND f
9	9	
10	$\frac{75 DUVIL W. DEVILO}{DAVID M DEVILO} KAT$	Cheryl Rost THLEEN P. WOLFE
11	KEV	tial Litigation Counsel IN J. KIJEWSKI
12	CHE	uty Chief RYL ROST
13	SAR	TTHEW FAIELLA AH GOLABEK-GOLDMAN
14	Disa	Attorneys bility Rights Section l Rights Division
15	U.S.	Department of Justice
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18 19		
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20	COMPLAINT 11	

# JS-CAND 44 (Rev. 10/2020) Case 3:21-cv-08735 Document 1-1 Filed 11/10/21 Page 1 of 2 CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. *(SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)* 

I. (a)	PLAINTIFFS		DEFEN	NDANTS					
United States of America			Uber Technologies, Inc.						
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			County of Residence of First Listed Defendant San Francisco (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)						
			NOTE:	IN LAND C THE TRAC	ONDEM T OF LA	NATION ND INVC	CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF	F	
(c)	Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)		Attorneys (If Known)						
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20530, (202) 616-3193 US Attorney's Office, 450 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102, (415) 436-7332			Covington & Burling, LLP, 850 Tenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20001, (202) 662-5238						
II.	BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)		<b>FIZENSH</b> r Diversity Cas		RINCII	PAL PA	<b>ARTIES</b> (Place an "X" in One Ba and One Box for Defend		aintiff
1					PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF
<b>X</b> <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Government Plaintiff 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citize	en of This State		1	1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	4	4
2	U.S. Government Defendant 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another S	tate	2	2	Incorporated <i>and</i> Principal Place of Business In Another State	5	5
	(indicate Chizenship of 1 arties in them in)		en or Subject of gn Country	a	3	3	Foreign Nation	6	6

IV. NATURE OF SU	$\bigcup$ <b>IT</b> (Place an "X" in One Box (	Dnly)						
CONTRACT	TORTS		FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES			
CONTRACT         110 Insurance         120 Marine         130 Miller Act         140 Negotiable Instrument         150 Recovery of         Overpayment Of         Veteran's Benefits         151 Medicare Act         152 Recovery of Defaulted         Student Loans (Excludes         Veterans)         153 Recovery of         Overpayment         of Veteran's Benefits         160 Stockholders' Suits         190 Other Contract         195 Contract Product Liability         196 Franchise <b>REAL PROPERTY</b> 210 Land Condemnation	TOR         PERSONAL INJURY         310 Airplane       315 Airplane Product Liability         320 Assault, Libel & Slander       330 Federal Employers' Liability         340 Marine       345 Marine Product Liability         350 Motor Vehicle       355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability         360 Other Personal Injury       362 Personal Injury         362 Personal Injury -Medical Malpractice       Malpractice         CIVIL RIGHTS         440 Other Civil Rights         441 Voting       442 Employment         443 Housing/ Accommodations       Accommodations         445 Amer. w/Disabilities Employment       Employment         448 Education       X         448 Education       Sa R		FORFEITURE/PENALTY         625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC § 881         690 Other         LABOR         710 Fair Labor Standards Act         720 Labor/Management Relations         740 Railway Labor Act         751 Family and Medical Leave Act         790 Other Labor Litigation         791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act         IMMIGRATION         462 Naturalization Application         465 Other Immigration Actions	422 Appeal 28 USC § 158         423 Withdrawal 28 USC § 157         PROPERTY RIGHTS         820 Copyrights         830 Patent         835 Patent—Abbreviated New Drug Application         840 Trademark         880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016         SOCIAL SECURITY         861 HIA (1395ff)         862 Black Lung (923)         863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))         864 SSID Title XVI         865 RSI (405(g))         FEDERAL TAX SUITS	<ul> <li>375 False Claims Act</li> <li>376 Qui Tam (31 USC § 3729(a))</li> <li>400 State Reapportionment</li> <li>410 Antitrust</li> <li>430 Banks and Banking</li> <li>450 Commerce</li> <li>460 Deportation</li> <li>470 Racketeer Influenced &amp; Corrupt Organizations</li> <li>480 Consumer Credit</li> <li>485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act</li> <li>490 Cable/Sat TV</li> <li>850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange</li> <li>890 Other Statutory Actions</li> <li>891 Agricultural Acts</li> <li>895 Freedom of Information</li> </ul>			
210 Land Condemnation         220 Foreclosure         230 Rent Lease & Ejectment         240 Torts to Land         245 Tort Product Liability         290 All Other Real Property         V.         ORIGIN (Place and Proceeding					Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes 8 Multidistrict			
VI.       CAUSE OF ACTION       Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 USC 12181, et seq. Brief description of cause: Transportation-related disability discrimination claims								
VII.       REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:       CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P.       DEMAND \$       CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND:       CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: Yes								
VIII. RELATED CASE(S), IF ANY (See instructions): JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER								
IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)         (Place an "X" in One Box Only)         ×       SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND         SAN JOSE								

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

/s/ David M. DeVito

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS-CAND 44**

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet. The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.** a) **Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)."
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
  - (1) United States plaintiff. Jurisdiction based on 28 USC §§ 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
  - (2) <u>United States defendant</u>. When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
  - (3) Federal question. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
  - (4) <u>Diversity of citizenship</u>. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)
- **III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the six boxes.
  - (1) Original Proceedings. Cases originating in the United States district courts.
  - (2) <u>Removed from State Court</u>. Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 USC § 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
  - (3) <u>Remanded from Appellate Court</u>. Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
  - (4) <u>Reinstated or Reopened</u>. Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
  - (5) <u>Transferred from Another District</u>. For cases transferred under Title 28 USC § 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
  - (6) <u>Multidistrict Litigation Transfer</u>. Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 USC § 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
  - (8) <u>Multidistrict Litigation Direct File</u>. Check this box when a multidistrict litigation case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.

Please note that there is no Origin Code 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC § 553. <u>Brief Description</u>: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23.

Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS-CAND 44 is used to identify related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.
- IX. Divisional Assignment. If the Nature of Suit is under Property Rights or Prisoner Petitions or the matter is a Securities Class Action, leave this section blank. For all other cases, identify the divisional venue according to Civil Local Rule 3-2: "the county in which a substantial part of the events or omissions which give rise to the claim occurred or in which a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is situated."

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.