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KLICKITAT COUNTY CLERK

# IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KLICKITAT

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Plaintiff,

v.

SLADE KITCHENS and SHAWNA KITCHENS, individually and on behalf of their marital community, dba <a href="https://www.jeffscycles.com">www.jeffscycles.com</a>, Jeff's Cycles, Hood River Cycles, Prospect Tel. & Cycle, PTC Telecom, Cycle Parts 2007, <a href="https://www.CycleParts2007.com">www.CycleParts2007.com</a> and Denver Monahan Parts,

Defendants.

NO. 08\* 2 00239 5

COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE AND OTHER RELIEF UNDER THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

COMES NOW, the plaintiff, State of Washington by and through its attorneys Robert M. McKenna, Attorney General, and Mary C. Lobdell, Assistant Attorney General, and brings this action against the defendants named herein. The State alleges the following on information and belief:

#### I. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1.1 This Complaint is filed and these proceedings are instituted under the provisions of the Unfair Business Practices Consumer Protection Act, chapter 19.86 RCW.
- 1.2 The violations alleged in this Complaint have been committed in whole or in part in Klickitat County in the state of Washington by the defendants named herein.

1.3 The Attorney General is authorized to commence this action under RCW 19.86.080 and RCW 19.86.140.

#### II. DEFENDANTS

- 2.1 Defendant Slade Kitchens is an unlicensed sole proprietor in the state of Washington doing business as <a href="www.jeffscycles.com">www.jeffscycles.com</a>, <a href="www.CycleParts2007.com">www.CycleParts2007.com</a>. Jeff's Cycles, Cycle Parts 2007, Hood River Cycles, Prospect Tel. & Cycle, Prospect Cycles, PTC Telecom and Denver Monahan Parts. He resides at 1119 Prospect Street, Dallesport, Washington 98617. Defendant sells motorcycle parts through the Internet website <a href="www.jeffscycles.com">www.jeffscycles.com</a> and <a href="www.jeffscycles.com">www.jeffscycles.com</a> and
- 2.2 Defendant Shawna Kitchens is an unlicensed sole proprietor in the state of Washington doing business as <a href="www.jeffscycles.com">www.jeffscycles.com</a>, <a href="www.jeffscycles.com">www.CycleParts2007.com</a>, Cycle Parts 2007, Jeff's Cycles, Hood River Cycles, Prospect Tel. & Cycle, Prospect Cycles, PTC Telecom, and Denver Monahan Parts. She resides at 1119 Prospect Street, Dallesport, Washington 98617. Defendant Shawna Kitchens participates in the selling or sells motorcycle parts over the Internet through the website <a href="www.jeffscycles.com">www.jeffscycles.com</a>, <a href="www.jeffscycles.com">www.CycleParts2007.com</a>. Defendant, Shawna Kitchens, on information and belief is married to Slade Kitchens and together they constitute a marital community. All acts performed by defendant Shawna Kitchens as alleged in this Complaint were done for the benefit of her marital community.
- 2.3 For purposes of this Complaint, the term "defendants" shall include Slade Kitchens and Shawn Kitchens.

#### III. NATURE OF TRADE OR COMMERCE

- 3.1 The defendants now and at all times relevant to this action have offered to provide motorcycle parts to consumers located throughout the United States through their website, <a href="https://www.jeffscycles.com">www.jeffscycles.com</a> and <a href="https://www.jeffscycles.com">www.CycleParts2007.com</a>.
- 3.2 In the ordinary course of business, defendants have utilized oral and written representations to induce consumers to pay for motorcycle parts.
- 3.3 In a standard transaction, defendants represent orally and by writing that motorcycle parts are available for immediate delivery upon receipt of payment. Defendants request payment in advance of delivery and immediately cash checks, debit accounts or credit accounts provided by consumers. If the goods are not to specifications or damaged, consumers ship the product back to defendants and seek a refund.
- 3.4 Defendants were at all times material to this action in competition with others engaged in similar business activities within the state of Washington.

#### IV. FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION – FAILURE TO DELIVER

- **4.1** Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1.1 through 3.4 and incorporates them herein as if set forth in full.
- 4.2 Between March 2006 to present, defendants accepted from consumers amounts varying between \$45 and \$474 for motorcycle parts and shipping costs. Defendants accepted payment by check, debit or credit card charge.
- 4.3 Although delivery was promised, defendants failed to deliver the requested motorcycle part(s) after accepting payment.
- 4.4 Defendants accepted payment and failed to deliver motorcycle parts to at least 44 consumers located throughout the United States.
- 4.5 The conduct described above constitutes an unfair or deceptive act or practice in violation of RCW 19.86.020.

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#### V. SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION - MISREPRESENTATION

- 5.1 Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1.1 through 3.4 and incorporates them herein as if set forth in full.
- 5.2 In the ordinary course of business, defendants represented that the motorcycle part(s) sought by consumers were readily available for immediate shipment. Defendants further made representations as to the type and quality of the part available as well as stating that each part came with a 100% money back guarantee or "satisfaction guarantee."
- 5.3 Defendants misrepresented the availability of parts to consumers, including misrepresenting that the part had been shipped through DHL or other carrier when it in fact had not. Defendants also misrepresented the nature and quality of parts and the availability of a money back or satisfaction guarantee.
- 5.5 Defendants additionally provided consumers with the wrong part, a defective part or a damaged part as well as parts that did not conform to the purposes to which the defendants represented.
- **5.6** Defendants failed to provide consumers with the promised "money back" or "satisfaction" guarantee.
- 5.7 The conduct described above constitutes unfair or deceptive acts or practices in trade or commerce, and unfair methods of competition in violation of RCW 19.86.020.

# VI. THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION - FAILURE TO REFUND

- 6.1 Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1.1 through 3.4 and incorporates them herein as if set forth in full.
- 6.2 Defendants requested that consumers ship incorrect or damaged parts back to them. Defendants offered to provide consumers with refunds upon the return of motorcycle parts.
- 6.3 Defendants failed to refund monies to consumers who returned parts and refused to refund monies to consumers who received no parts at all.

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6.4 The conduct described above constitutes unfair and deceptive acts or practices in trade or commerce, and unfair methods of competition in violation of RCW 19.86.020.

## VII. FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION – UNLICENSED VEHICLE WRECKER

- 7.1 Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1.1 through 3.4 and incorporates them herein as if set forth in full.
- 7.2 Defendants operate a business that sells major component parts of wrecked vehicles as that term is defined by RCW 46.04.670 and RCW 46.80.010(6) at an established place of business located in Washington.
- 7.3 The major component parts sold by defendants include but are not limited to engines, transmissions, seats and other parts.
- 7.4 Defendants ship to consumers and receive major component parts from a location in Washington.
- 7.5 Defendants are operating as an unlicensed vehicle wrecker contrary to RCW 46.80.020(1).
- 7.6 The provisions of RCW 46.80 are to be liberally construed to prevent irresponsible, unreliable or dishonest persons from engaging in the business of wrecking vehicles or selling used vehicle parts in this state.
- 7.7 The conduct described above constitutes unfair and deceptive acts or practices in trade or commerce, and unfair methods of competition in violation of RCW 19.86.020.

### VIII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, State of Washington, prays for relief as follows:

- **8.1** That the Court adjudge and decree that defendants have engaged in the conduct complained of herein.
- 8.2 That the Court adjudge and decree that the conduct complained of herein constitutes unfair or deceptive acts and practices and unfair methods of competition in violation of the Consumer Protection Act, chapter 19.86 RCW.

- 8.3 That the Court issue a permanent injunction enjoining and restraining defendants, and their representatives, successors, assigns, officers, agents, servants, employees, and all other persons acting or claiming to act for, on behalf of, or in active concert or participation with defendants, from continuing or engaging in the unlawful conduct complained of herein, including but not limited to, permanently enjoining the Defendants from conducting any business related to the buying, selling or marketing cycle parts and permanently enjoining Defendants from advertising or conducting any business related to the buying, selling or marketing of parts over the internet.
- **8.4** That the Court assess civil penalties, pursuant to RCW 19.86.140, of up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000) per violation against defendants for each and every violation of RCW 19.86.020 caused by the conduct complained of herein.
- 8.5 That the Court make such orders pursuant to RCW 19.86.080 as may be necessary to restore to any person the money or property acquired by the defendants as a result of the conduct complained of herein.
- 8.6 That the Court make such orders pursuant to RCW 19.86.080 to provide that plaintiff, State of Washington, have and recover from defendants the costs of this action, including reasonable attorneys' fees.
- 8.7 That the Court order such other relief as it may deem just and proper to fully and effectively dissipate the effects of the conduct complained of herein, or which may otherwise seem proper to the Court.

DATED this 25 / day of August, 2008.

ROBERT M. MCKENNA Attorney General

MARY CLOBDELL, WSBA #17930

Assistant Attorney General

Attorney for State of Washington