- 1							
1	QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN, LLP Stephen A. Swedlow (pro hac vice) stephenswedlow@quinnemanuel.com David A. Nelson (pro hac vice) davenelson@quinnemanuel.com						
2							
3							
4	Marc L. Kaplan (pro hac vice) marckaplan@quinnemanuel.com						
5	191 N. Wacker Dr., Suite 2700 Chicago, IL 60606						
6	Telephone: (312) 705-7400 Facsimile: (312) 705-7401						
7	Adam Wolfson (SBN 262125)						
8	adamwolfson@quinnemanuel.com Joseph Sarles (SBN 254750)						
9	josephsarles@quinnemanuel.com 865 S. Figueroa Street, 10 th Floor						
10	Los Angeles, CA 90017 Telephone: (213) 443-3000 Facsimile: (213) 443-3100						
11	Attorneys for Plaintiff SaurikIT, LLC						
12							
13	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT						
14	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA						
15	SAURIKIT, LLC						
16	Plaintiff,	CASE NO. 4:20-cv-08733-YGR					
17							
18	V.	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT					
19	APPLE INC.,						
20	Defendant.	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED					
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							

1		TABLE OF CONTENTS Pa					
2	_	DIED	ODLICE	TO V	1		
3	I.	INTRODUCTION					
4	II.	THE PARTIES					
5	III.	JURISDICTION AND VENUE					
6	IV.	INTRADISTRICT ASSIGNMENT					
7	V.	RELEVANT FACTS					
8		A.	CYDIA	A—AN IOS APP STORE BEFORE THE APP STORE	8		
9		B.	B. APPLE MONOPOLIZES THE IOS APP DISTRIBUTION AND IOS APP PAYMENT PROCESSING MARKETS		11		
10			1.	Apple Belatedly Launches Its Own App Store	11		
11 12			2.	Apple Has Monopoly Power in the Relevant Markets for iOS App Distribution and iOS App Payment Processing	17		
13			3.	Apple's Anticompetitive Conduct and the Antitrust Injury	29		
14	INTERSTATE TRADE AND COMMERCE42						
15	PRAYER FOR RELIEF5						
16	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL5						
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							

-i-

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>¹

- 1. In today's world, if you ask an iPhone user what is the "App Store," they will tell you it is the store that Apple includes on all new iPhones and is the distribution channel through which users locate, download, and pay for applications ("apps") for their phone. The App Store is a huge business that generates over \$50 billion annually, of which Apple generally takes a 30% cut. It is also a source of much controversy because, just as it does in nearly all aspects of its business, Apple has wielded the power the App Store gives it over iOS app distribution ruthlessly, and in a way that has not only drawn substantial outcry from the app developer community, but also deep scrutiny from governments and regulators worldwide.
- 2. What most do not know, however, is that it did not have to be this way and, in fact, is not this way (and never was) on nearly every other electronic device platform. Historically, distribution of apps for a specific operating system ("OS") occurred in a separate and robustly competitive market. Apple, however, began coercing users and app developers to utilize no other iOS app distribution service but the App Store, coupling it closer and closer to each subsequent model of the iPhone and each subsequent version of iOS in order to crowd out all competition. But Apple did not come up with this idea initially—it only saw the economic promise that iOS app distribution represented after others, like the Plaintiff here, demonstrated that value with their own iOS app distribution products/services. Faced with this realization, Apple then decided to take that separate market (as well as the additional iOS app payment processing market described herein) for itself.
- 3. Plaintiff SaurikIT, LLC ("SaurikIT" or "Cydia") was founded by Jay Freeman, a preeminent software engineer. When Apple introduced the iPhone, it failed to address the distribution of iOS apps. Mr. Freeman realized that Apple's users wanted and needed to expand the iPhone's stock capabilities, so he developed Cydia. With an intuitive and attractive interface,

¹ A redline of the amendments included in this First Amended Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

4 5 6

3

7 8

9

10

11 12 13

14

15

16 17 18

20 21

19

23 24

22

25 26

27

28

Cydia was the first comprehensive solution to fill that need and was the App Store before the App Store even existed.

- 4. Cydia became hugely popular by offering a marketplace that, until recently, users have always been able to obtain directly from the internet (i.e., not through Apple) and install on their phones to find and obtain third party iOS applications that greatly expanded the capabilities of the stock iPhone, including games, productivity applications, and audio/visual applications such as a video recorder (whereas the original iPhone only allowed still camera photos). Apple subsequently took many of these early third party applications' innovations, incorporating them into the iPhone directly or through apps.
- 5. But far worse than simply copying others' innovations, Apple also recognized that it could reap enormous profits if it cornered this fledgling market for iOS app distribution, because that would give Apple complete power over iOS apps, regardless of the developer. Apple therefore initiated a campaign to eliminate competition for iOS app distribution altogether. That campaign has been successful and continues to this day. Apple did (and continues to do) so by, inter alia, tying the App Store app to every new iPhone device that users purchase and then activate by preinstalling it on all iOS devices and then contractually mandating it as the default method to obtain iOS apps, regardless of user preference for other alternatives; regularly applying new and ever-more-restrictive technological means every few months (including up through the present) to lock down both prior *and* new versions of the iPhone to prevent App Store competitors like Cydia from even operating on the device, regardless of whether users obtained those competitors' offerings through the internet rather than through the App Store (as they have always done with Cydia); imposing contractual terms on users for every new iPhone device activation (including every new version of the iPhone that has been released in the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit) that coerce and prevent them from using App Store competitors, whether the user is a first-time iPhone user or someone upgrading to a new iPhone or iPhone model (and therefore entering a brand new contract that applies to a new device for that user); imposing contractual terms on every new iOS app developer that wishes to list and distribute their app through the App Store that they not use any other competitor's iOS app distribution service

27

28

(including millions of such brand new agreements in the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit); imposing the same new, updated contractual terms on existing app developers that wish to list and distribute updates to their apps on the App Store; updating its contracts (including within the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit) to include ever-more-restrictive requirements that shored up perceived "holes" in app developers' ability to use alternative iOS app distribution services; and regularly enforcing these exclusionary contractual terms, including within the four years preceding the original lawsuit in this action (for example, by famously kicking Epic Games off of the App Store for daring to challenge Apple's anticompetitive practices). Apple has also mandated through contractual agreements that every new iOS app developer wishing to put their app on the App Store use Apple as their sole option for app payment processing (such as in-app purchases), and by enforcing those same agreements for existing app developers when Apple contended they violated the exclusionary terms (including within the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit). The sum total of these actions has been to prevent other competitors, such as Cydia, from offering the same services to those developers and obtaining more iOS app distribution and iOS payment processing market share (from both consumers and developers) than they could obtain through regular competition. This is so despite the fact that Cydia has always been available to consumers through the internet rather than through the App Store—meaning it has neither depended on nor dealt with Apple for access to iPhones or iPhone user/iOS developer customers for its alternative iOS app distribution and payment processing services.

6. At the January 5, 2022 hearing in this matter, the Court asked Cydia "Why file this case now?" The answer is that Apple's anticompetitive acts finally broke the proverbial camel's back in late 2019. Throughout Cydia's life (*i.e.*, from 2008 on), Apple would make technological updates approximately every six to nine months on either new models of iPhones or in new versions of iOS, or both. These technological updates impeded competing app stores' (like Cydia's) ability to operate on iPhones, and piggybacked on and heightened the effects of the other anticompetitive acts Apple took every year through the present with respect to imposing and enforcing exclusionary agreements on both iPhone consumers and iOS app developers, discussed

24

25

26

27

28

above. The app store competitors—Cydia included, given that it was always the largest such competitor—would then revise their software so that it once again worked on iOS and thus on both new and existing models of iPhones. Beginning in 2018, however—i.e., less than four years before the original complaint in this lawsuit—Apple began ramping up its aggressive campaign of technological revisions to iOS and new models of the iPhone to exclude competition. debilitating revisions to iOS became more frequent, and they culminated in a change in 2018 that made it essentially impossible for Cydia or any other competing iOS app distribution service to operate on iPhone XS and later models (i.e., models released September 2018 and later). Then, in late 2019, Apple made another change that, once and for all, prevented Cydia's and other competing iOS app distribution service's ability to operate on *all* iPhone models, thereby finally succeeding in excluding all competitors. Indeed, Apple celebrated the effectiveness of this exclusionary change both internally and externally. Similarly-elevated anticompetitive actions regarding other app store competitors also abound in the 2016-2020 period. Although Cydia had operated independently from Apple and the App Store in a continuous manner since 2008, and despite all the roadblocks that Apple threw its way from that time through within four years of the original complaint in this lawsuit, Apple only really succeeded in excluding all competing iOS app distribution and payment processing services from the App Store in 2019 and 2020, even while it continued its ongoing campaign of forcing consumers and developers to not use those same competitors. In early 2020, Cydia began assessing its legal options and, during that process, Epic Games filed its now-famous lawsuit alleging virtually (although not completely) identical claims as Cydia. Thus, "why now?" can be simply answered as "because Apple finally succeeded in completely excluding Cydia with new acts, whereas it had largely just hamstrung Cydia and similar competitors before."

7. Through all of the anticompetitive acts set forth in this complaint, Apple has wrongfully acquired and maintained monopoly power in the market (or aftermarket) for iOS app distribution, and in the market (or aftermarket) for iOS app payment processing. Apple has, within the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit, finally frozen Cydia and all other competitors out of both markets, depriving them completely of the ability to compete with

1

24

25

26

16

17

18

the App Store and to offer developers and consumers better prices, better service, and more choice. This anticompetitive conduct has unsurprisingly generated massive profits and unprecedented market capitalization for Apple, as well as incredible market power.

- 8. But Apple's anticompetitive conduct has not gone unnoticed. Regulators around the globe are currently investigating its abuses of power over iOS app distribution, iOS app payment processing, and iOS apps themselves. The United States government, for example, recently condemned Apple as a monopolist the likes of which "we last saw in the era of oil barons and railroad tycoons." According to a recent U.S. House Judiciary Antitrust Subcommittee report, "Apple leverages its control of iOS and the App Store to create and enforce barriers to competition and discriminate against and exclude rivals while preferencing its own offerings." European regulators likewise have "opened formal antitrust investigations to assess whether Apple's rules for app developers on the distribution of apps via the App Store violate EU competition rules" and are concerned that "Apple obtained a 'gatekeeper' role when it comes to the distribution of apps and content to users of Apple's popular devices." And that is just the beginning—Apple is under investigation for its anticompetitive conduct in at least seven jurisdictions around the globe for precisely the conduct Cydia challenges here, including new investigations just announced now, at the beginning of 2022.²
- 9. Were it not for Apple's anticompetitive acquisition and maintenance of an illegal monopoly over iOS app distribution, users today would actually be able to choose how and where to locate and obtain iOS apps, and developers would be able to use the iOS app distributor of their choice. This would have, in turn, forced Apple to compete for such distribution, which basic economics dictates would have carried substantial benefits to consumers and developers alike. But Apple chose a different path and instead illegally—and, particularly relevant for the purposes of this amended complaint, finally, via ramped up exclusionary acts from 2018 to 2020—squashed

28

⁹to5mac.com, "India joins list of countries investigating Apple over App Store antitrust allegations," available at https://9to5mac.com/2022/01/03/india-joins-list-of-countriesinvestigating-apple-over-app-store-antitrust-allegations/.

1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7

market up to this day. Apple's actions have increased prices for developers and consumers, decreased market output in multiple respects, and generally suppressed innovation because Apple simply wanted more money for itself. Such actions are antithetical to fair competition, violate the law, and require action to prevent further harm to the market and consumers. This lawsuit seeks to open the markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing to those who wish to compete fairly with Apple, and to recover the enormous damages Apple caused Cydia.

all competition for the App Store, even despite efforts, like Cydia's, to continue to compete in that

II. THE PARTIES

- 10. Plaintiff Cydia is a California company with its principal place of business in Isla Vista, California. The Cydia application is an app marketplace that seeks to expand the capabilities of the iPhone for users, including by distributing innovative applications, games, and packages. Cydia was developed in 2008 by a programmer named Jay Freeman, and has ever since been made available for download and installation via the internet (as opposed to the App Store). At its inception in 2008, Cydia was the most successful iOS app distributor, predating the App Store. Apple then escalated the anticompetitive conduct described herein, which forced its later-developed App Store into a dominant position and largely shut Cydia and other competitors out of the iOS app distribution market. Yet, even under these anticompetitive circumstances, Cydia has consistently been the second-most successful iOS app distribution channel, demonstrating both the demand for Cydia specifically, and for non-Apple iOS app distribution services generally. It was not until 2018 through 2020 (discussed further below) that Apple succeeded in effectively excluding the Cydia app entirely from the iPhone.
- 11. Defendant Apple is a California corporation with its principal place of business in Cupertino, California. Apple is likely the largest public company in the world. Apple sells hardware, in the form of iPhones, iPads, Watches, and Mac computers, as well as a number of related services. Apple controls and administers iOS as well as the Apple App Store ("App Store"), which includes setting policy for the App Store and contracting with app developers and consumers.

III. <u>JURISDICTION AND VENUE</u>

- 12. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over plaintiff's federal antitrust claims under the Clayton Antitrust Act, 15 U.S.C. § 26, and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1337. The Court has supplemental jurisdiction over plaintiff's state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 13. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Apple because Apple's headquarters are located in Cupertino, California. Apple has engaged in sufficient minimum contacts with the United States and has purposefully availed itself of the benefits and protections of both United States and California law such that the exercise of jurisdiction over Apple would comport with due process. Apple has also entered into agreements with developers and consumers that require related disputes to be litigated in this District.
- 14. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because Apple maintains its principal place of business in the State of California and in this District, and because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to plaintiff's claims occurred in this District. In the alternative, personal jurisdiction and venue also may be deemed proper under Section 12 of the Clayton Antitrust Act, 15 U.S.C. § 22, because Apple may be found in or transacts business in this District.

IV. <u>INTRADISTRICT ASSIGNMENT</u>

15. Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 3-2(c), this antitrust case shall not be assigned to a particular Division of this District, but shall be assigned on a District-wide basis. Cydia notes that related cases *Cameron v. Apple Inc.*, 19-cv-03074-YGR, *Epic Games v. Apple Inc.*, 3:20-cv-05640-YGR, and *In re Apple iPhone Antitrust Litig.*, 11-cv-06714-YGR are currently pending in the Oakland Division.

V. <u>RELEVANT FACTS</u>

16. Apple has injured both Cydia and competition by way of its unlawful behavior in the U.S. market(s) for (1) iOS app distribution, and (2) iOS app payment processing services. As the holder of an improperly-obtained monopoly in these market(s), Apple's behavior has resulted in exclusionary and anticompetitive policies and contractual arrangements, reduced output and reduced innovation, and supracompetitive prices for app developers and consumers. It has also

caused Cydia substantial damages, including up to the present, due to Apple's continued anticompetitive conduct, which occurs with every new sale of every new iPhone, and with every

update to the iOS operating system on existing iPhones.

A. CYDIA—AN IOS APP STORE BEFORE THE APP STORE

17. When the first iPhone launched, it was not a "smartphone" by today's definition.³ Although it had cutting edge hardware, the first iPhone was extremely limited in its functionality. It came with only a handful of Apple apps, like a web browser and a basic email client.⁴ There were no third party software applications available, and Apple did not even have any mechanism to allow users to download or install additional applications or features on their devices.⁵

- 18. Jay Freeman was one of the first iPhone adopters and immediately recognized its promise to allow users to do far more than Apple originally envisioned. Mr. Freeman is a preeminent software engineer who studied computer science at the University of California, Santa Barbara and has worked in the field ever since. Among other things, he researched static analysis of platforms such as Microsoft's .NET and Java, which later became the ubiquitous software language that is the foundation of the Android operating system. This background uniquely prepared him for his pioneering development of Cydia.
- 19. Under long-standing technology industry practice—even Apple's own practice on its Mac computers—after users purchase a computing device, they are free to install whatever applications they desire, regardless of developer or origin. Markets (or aftermarkets) for applications written for a specific OS are well-recognized and exist for nearly every category of computing device sold today. This is because applications written for one OS do not work on a different OS, so are not substitutes for one another, even if they perform equivalent tasks or have similar purposes.

https://www.businessinsider.com/first-phone-anniversary-2016-12.

⁴ https://www.computerworld.com/article/2549128/update--jobs-touts-iphone---appletv-.html.

^{5 &}lt;u>https://www.somagnews.com/9-features-of-the-first-iphone/.</u>

- 20. Since well before Apple introduced the iPhone, and up through today, the majority of software applications have been sold in a robust distribution market involving multiple different types of distribution channels, including traditional brick and mortar stores, online websites, and OEM-provided marketplaces. Participants in these markets compete with each other for the sale of software applications. Thus, as an historical example, consumers were able to purchase disks with Mac software from brick and mortar stores, or could purchase the right to download that same software on the internet from Apple and then download the program directly to their computer. In those earlier days of the internet, Apple competed with other sellers to distribute software for its devices.
- 21. When Apple first introduced the iPhone, it clearly intended to follow that same precedent, as it did not itself provide a mechanism for users to locate and obtain third party applications on their devices. While the economic potential for providing such a marketplace is now obvious in retrospect, Mr. Freeman was among the first to recognize the opportunity and to meet the needs of the market.
- 22. With Cydia, which Mr. Freeman developed and programmed by himself, users suddenly could use that app to locate, obtain, and eventually pay for *other* desirable applications for their iOS devices. This innovation was revolutionary on the then-fledgling smartphone format and, from the outset, demand for the service Cydia provided was massive. One of the most popular early applications, for example, was Cycorder,⁶ the first video recorder app for the iPhone, which was available well before Apple's own video recording app.⁷ Mr. Freeman built Cycorder from scratch along with many other applications, and other third party developers almost immediately began programming their own applications, games, and other features, and offering them for distribution or sale in the Cydia store.⁸ Cydia not only provided a repository to browse

^{6 &}lt;u>https://cydia.saurik.com/info/cycorder/.</u>

⁷ <u>https://www.macworld.com/article/1141031/iphone3gs.html;</u> <u>https://www.gsmarena.com/apple_iphone_3g-2424.php.</u>

⁸ https://masonsblogonios.wordpress.com/2011/05/31/cydia-history/.

available applications, but it permitted users to add so-called "extensions" or "packages" that made their devices easier to use and more customizable.⁹ In the years since this additional innovation, Apple has incorporated such "extensions" into its definition of apps and makes many available on the App Store today. For example, applications available via Cydia pioneered the "control center," predictive keyboards, rich text formatting for email, accessing the camera from the lock screen, and many more features that were later (sometimes years later) incorporated by Apple into iOS or Apple's own applications.¹⁰

- 23. Cydia was a massive undertaking that became increasingly time-consuming and complex as its popularity soared in the months and early years after its introduction. Mr. Freeman's work to build the initial marketplace was a huge task, particularly due to the almost total lack of programming interface support from Apple in those early days. From scratch, Mr. Freeman built the software necessary for app delivery and an app purchase mechanism, and created curation frameworks and systems for app selection. He also broke new ground with his payment processing mechanisms, integrating the then-largest payment processors in the world, such as PayPal and Amazon.¹¹ Based on this work, Mr. Freeman built a reputation for incredibly reliable and fair service.
- 24. From its inception, Cydia has always been available to users via the internet; *i.e.*, it has never been distributed through the App Store, and does not need to be. Users wishing to install Cydia on their iPhone must go through certain processes to avoid the technological restrictions Apple throws in the way of third party app store providers like Cydia—a process called "jailbreaking"—but those steps do not rely on nor require any interaction with Apple, and never have (and, as discussed below, are completely legal and only required because Apple intentionally makes it so difficult for users to utilize this option). Cydia's software works by

https://wccftech.com/top-cydia-tweaks-bbm-plus-nosafarihistory-and-more/.

 $^{^{10}}$ $\underline{\text{https://ios.gadgethacks.com/how-to/60-ios-features-apple-stole-from-jailbreakers-0188093/.}$

¹¹ Cydia was one of the largest users of Amazon Flexible Payments. Cydia also integrated Alipay services.

2 3 4

1

5

8

7

1011

1213

14

1516

18

17

19

2021

22

23

2425

26

2728

utilizing the standard tools available to any developer for iOS. Cydia, as a company, has never requested special access from Apple nor tried to deal with Apple for its busines model, nor has Cydia depended in any way on Apple beyond, at times, utilizing the exact same tools, kits, APIs, and other programming features made available to any other developer or programmer.

25. Although exact estimates vary, Cydia reached roughly 10% of iPhone users at its peak, around 2009, and despite Apple's introduction of the App Store and the early steps Apple took to limit competition in the market for iOS app distribution. This meant that tens of millions of users sought out Cydia's service—first, when it pioneered the concept of an app-based iOS app marketplace on iPhones and, later, as an alternative to the App Store after Apple copied Cydia's innovations and began imposing the App Store on iPhone users in the ways described below. Indeed, hundreds of thousands of users have continued to download Cydia in each of its iterations over the years, even as Apple has done more and more with each new generation of its iOS software and each new model of its iPhone devices (including the latest versions within the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit) to stamp out competition for iOS app distribution. In iPhone users have always wanted choice in app distribution, and Cydia, as the original innovator in this space, has always been ready, willing, and able to provide that choice.

B. APPLE MONOPOLIZES THE IOS APP DISTRIBUTION AND IOS APP PAYMENT PROCESSING MARKETS

1. Apple Belatedly Launches Its Own App Store

26. Although Cydia—and the many third party developers using Cydia—were far ahead of Apple early on, Apple opened its own competitive App Store in July 2008. As it has done countless times since with other types of apps, Apple lifted many of the popular aspects of

https://jalopnik.com/even-toyota-is-apples-bitch-5789431 (8-9%); http://isource.com/2009/05/27/what-percentage-of-iphones-are-jailbroken-less-than-10-percent/(7%).

https://www.businessinsider.com/jailbreak-statistics-2013-3.

https://www.businessinsider.com/jailbreak-statistics-2013-3.

^{15 &}lt;u>https://www.apple.com/newsroom/2018/07/app-store-turns-10/#:~:text=In%2010%20years%2C%20the%20App,travel%20and%20so%20much%20more.</u>

apps.16

27.

1

456

7 8

10

9

12 13

11

15 16

17 18

19

2021

22

2324

 16 https://ios.gadgethacks.com/how-to/60-ios-features-apple-stole-from-jailbreakers-0188093/.

2526

https://www.theverge.com/2020/6/17/21293813/apple-app-store-policies-hey-30-percent-developers-the-trial-by-franz-kafka.

27

reasonably large customer base, each developer with their app on the Cydia store had a higher chance of being noticed and gaining popularity (and revenue). Cydia also offered expedited app approval compared to Apple, the latter of which is famous for the time it takes to approve apps

that app developers and consumers still preferred Cydia instead. With a smaller market but a

the Cydia store and incorporated them into the App Store. For example, many of the apps and

packages distributed through Cydia were ultimately incorporated by Apple into iOS or its own

But, even with Apple's introduction of the App Store, there were numerous reasons

(often, months) and is notoriously opaque in its decision making process.¹⁷ In the years since its

questions from Apple about their apps, the app submission process, listings on the App Store, and

inception, many iOS app developers have faced substantial difficulty getting answers to simple

other similar issues.¹⁸

28. Ever since Apple first introduced the App Store, it has preinstalled the App Store app on iPhones and made it so that users can neither remove the app nor change their default preference to any other marketplace, such as Cydia. This practice has continued with the introduction of every new model of the iPhone since 2008, including every new model of the device that Apple introduced and began selling for the first time within the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit (*i.e.*, the iPhone XS, the iPhone XS Max, the iPhone XR, the iPhone 11, the iPhone 11 Pro, the iPhone 11 Max, the iPhone SE, the iPhone 12 mini, the iPhone 12, the iPhone 12 Pro, the iPhone 12 Pro Max, the iPhone 13, the iPhone 13 mini, the iPhone 13 Pro, and the iPhone 13 Pro Max). Moreover, Apple provides a warranty agreement with every new iPhone device activation that contains terms that coerce users into using only the App Store.

https://appleinsider.com/articles/15/04/23/apple-under-fire-once-again-for-inconsistent-app-store-rule-enforcement.

These warranties are specific to the device the user activates and do not apply to future purchases.¹⁹ If a consumer purchases a new iPhone device later, that device activation is subject to a new warranty and, thus, a new agreement between Apple and that consumer. Thus, if, for example, someone first purchased an iPhone in 2015, but then purchased a new iPhone in 2017, then they entered two different agreements with Apple, unique to each of those devices.

29. iPhone users that do not want to void their device-specific warranty can only download iOS apps through the App Store, which Apple exclusively controls, regardless of whether the given app was made by Apple or a third party developer. Thus, every single time an iPhone user activates a new iPhone—including the brand new models Apple introduced every year from 2008 through the present (including 15 different new models in the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit), Apple required users to agree to these terms and, just as importantly, Apple regularly *enforced* those terms against users, including in the four years preceding this lawsuit. The effect of these restrictions was to coerce and/or steer away iPhone users (i.e., potential customers) from competing offerings, like Cydia. This both harmed competition generally with each act (including every such act within the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit), as well as hurt Cydia each time it was unable to attract such potential customers due to Apple's anticompetitive restraints. See Samsung Elec. Co., Ltd. v. Panasonic Corp., 747 F.3d 1199, 1203-1204 (9th Cir. 2014) (imposing an anticompetitive contract with respect to new device not covered by the original contract is a new overt act); id. at 1204 (imposing anticompetitive agreement, even if it was "merely a restatement of" an earlier anticompetitive agreement, on new party for the first time constitutes a new overt act); id. at 1203 ("in [Pace Indus., Inc. v. Three Phoenix Co., 813 F.2d 234, 237 (9th Cir. 1987)], we held that certain actions taken to enforce contracts made in violation of the antitrust laws were sufficient to restart the statute of limitations"); Columbia Steel Casting Co., Inc. v. Portland Gen. Elec. Co., 111 F.3d 1427 (9th Cir. 1996) (enforcing an anticompetitive contract within the limitations

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

¹⁹ See, e.g., https://checkcoverage.apple.com/ (requiring a user to enter the serial number for their specific device in order to determine their warranty status and eligibility).

period—even one that was entered earlier than the limitations period—constitutes a new overt 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

act); Hennegan v. Pacifico Creative Serv., Inc., 787 F.2d 1299, 1301 (9th Cir. 1986) (actions to steer away customers from plaintiff's business within four years of the lawsuit each constituted a new overt act, even though the scheme to steer such customers away began more than four years earlier); Klein v. Facebook, Inc., 2022 WL 141561, at *33-34 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 14, 2022) (finding new overt acts and rejecting argument that they were not "new and independent" because they were a "reaffirmation of a previous strategy," and in particular noting the defendant provided "no authority for its argument that an act is not 'new and independent' simply because the defendant has previously committed the same type of act as part of a unified anticompetitive strategy"); see also Eichman v. Fotomat, 880 F.2d 149, 160 (9th Cir. 1989) ("To restart the statute of limitations in a tying situation, [a plaintiff] must show that [a defendant] had the ability [to] and actually did enforce the tie during the limitations period."); PBTM LLC v. Football Nw., LLC, 511 F. Supp. 3d 1158, 1182 (W.D. Wash. 2021) ("for a claim alleging an unlawful tying arrangement, the cause of action first accrues when the arrangement was executed or became effective").

30. Apple states that it controls which apps are available for download on every one of its Apple iOS devices.²⁰ As noted, third party developers create many of these apps, but users can also only pay for the apps through the App Store, and Apple takes a 30% commission on the vast majority of all app-related purchases, from download fees to in-app purchases.²¹ In contrast, Cydia has always offered to negotiate rates with its developers and has in fact done so to offer rates lower than 30% (or even the 15% commission Apple recently announced in response to regulatory scrutiny for sub-\$1 million apps).

23

21

18

19

20

over all app developers that grow and become more successful.

²²

https://developer.apple.com/app-store/review/guidelines/.

https://judiciary.house.gov/uploadedfiles/competition in digital markets.pdf at 98. The 24 only exception to this commission is a recently-announced change in Apple's policy, whereby app developers that make less than \$1 million in revenue annually will only have to pay a 15% 25 commission. This category of developer, however, only accounts for 5% of Apple's App Store revenue. See https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/18/technology/apple-app-store-fee.html. 26 Furthermore, the 30% commission has been in place for well over a decade, and remains hanging 27

31.

app developers.²³

 $_{26}$

 $\frac{22}{2}$ Id.

reducing engagement, developers' ability to provide feedback to customer issues, and denying developers more information about their customers. In contrast, Cydia does not limit customer interaction with developers in this way, nor does it require developers to use its payment processing services; rather, many have chosen to do so throughout the years because of Cydia's excellent service.

32. For their products to be sold in the App Store, iOS application developers enter into

payments from app buyers go first to Apple. Apple then distributes a portion of the proceeds to

Apple also uses price controls for all app-related purchases.²² For example,

App developers are precluded from direct contact with their customers,

- the Apple Developer Agreement, the Apple Developer Program License Agreement, and Schedule 2 to the License Agreement, among possibly others. These contracts have not stayed static over the years, but rather have been modified by Apple periodically to shore up perceived holes in, and add new restrictions on, developers' ability to use alternative app stores and/or payment processing services. These ever-more-restrictive changes include updates within the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit. Furthermore, Apple imposed each of these agreements and their anticompetitive terms (discussed further below) on every new app developer that wanted to sell their products in the App Store, including brand new developers (*i.e.*, potential Cydia customers) in the four years preceding this lawsuit.
- 33. After entering these agreements, an iOS app developer then must receive Apple's approval for its apps and in-app products before Apple will distribute and sell the apps through the App Store.²⁴ This approval process applies to new apps (of which there have been many over the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit), as well as updates to preexisting apps, and Apple uses the approval process to enforce and coerce compliance with the anticompetitive terms of its developer agreements. Moreover, Apple regularly raises issues with current apps

²³ Apple Inc. v. Pepper, 139 S. Ct. 1514, 1519 (2019).

²⁴ https://developer.apple.com/app-store/review/guidelines/.

2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

already on the App Store separate and apart from the approval process, and threatens to delist those apps if Apple contends they violate the exclusionary developer contract terms discussed further below. Thus, Apple has regularly enforced its anticompetitive developer contracts and their exclusionary terms year in and year out since 2008 and on every model of the iPhone (including those introduced in the past four years) in order to exclude competition from alternative app store and payment processing providers such as Cydia.

- 34. Developers can monetize their apps in several ways: a "Free Model" that enables free apps, increasing likelihood of engagement; a "Freemium Model" that makes the app download free, but users are offered optional additional features in-app that require payments; a "Subscription Model" that enables ongoing monetization through renewable transactions; a "Paid Model" that makes the app itself a paid download and offers no additional features; and a "Paymium Model" that enables paid app downloads and paid in-app content.²⁵
- 35. As discussed in further detail below, the iOS operating system is unique and incompatible with other mobile operating systems.²⁶ Similarly, apps written for iOS do not work on other operating systems (such as Android), and vice versa. Once a consumer purchases an iPhone, their only choice of apps for that phone are apps written for iOS, and, due to Apple's conduct, the App Store is essentially the only way in which iOS apps and in-app items can be sold to iOS device owners.²⁷ Apple insists via contracts with every new iPhone activation that buyers of its devices purchase apps and in-app products only through the App Store, or else void their device's warranty.²⁸ To reach Apple iOS device owners, then, developers have essentially no choice but to sell via the App Store.
- 36. Because of the combined effects of these competitive restraints, the App Store has become a massive commercial success. At its inception, the store included about 500 free and

^{25 &}lt;u>https://developer.apple.com/app-store/business-models/.</u>

https://judiciary.house.gov/uploadedfiles/competition_in_digital_markets.pdf at 334.

https://judiciary.house.gov/uploadedfiles/competition in digital markets.pdf at 335.

²⁸ *Id*.

commercial native applications.²⁹ It has since grown exponentially and, by the release of the iPhone 5 and introduction of the iPad mini in 2012, claimed more than 25 billion app downloads.³⁰ By the end of 2014, over 1.4 million apps were available in the App Store in many categories.³¹ Today, more than two million apps are available in the App Store.³²

- 37. As Mr. Freeman foresaw when he first created Cydia, apps have become an incredibly important part of the smartphone experience and are now an everyday tool in the life of people throughout the world. Indeed, apps, and their in-app product purchase options, are one of the largest growing markets in the electronic commerce industry, with astonishing worldwide growth from less than \$10 billion annual revenue in 2011 to an estimated hundreds of billions of dollars in 2021.
- 38. Apple sits atop all of these sales on iOS devices because it has anticompetitively wrested control of what was historically an unconcentrated and competitive type of market (sales and distribution of software applications for a specific OS) and interposed itself as the near sole player in that market for iOS apps. Annually, the App Store generates over \$50 billion, of which Apple takes more than \$15 billion.

2. Apple Has Monopoly Power in the Relevant Markets for iOS App Distribution and iOS App Payment Processing

39. Apple possesses monopoly power in the U.S. market (or aftermarket) for iOS app distribution (*i.e.*, distribution for apps written for iOS devices), and in the U.S. market (or aftermarket) for iOS app payment processing (*i.e.*, payment processing for apps written for iOS devices, as well as in-app purchases for such apps). Customers for each include app developers

^{29 &}lt;u>https://www.apple.com/newsroom/2018/07/app-store-turns-10/#:~:text=In%2010%20years%2C%20the%20App,travel%20and%20so%20much%20more.</u>

^{30 &}lt;u>https://www.apple.com/newsroom/2012/03/05Apples-App-Store-Downloads-Top-25-Billion/.</u>

https://www.apple.com/tn/newsroom/2015/01/08App-Store-Rings-in-2015-with-New-Records/.

https://www.digitaltrends.com/news/apple-app-store-turns-10/.

and consumers using iOS devices, and they exist as aftermarkets to iOS devices. Each is discussed in further detail below.

(i) <u>iOS app distribution</u>

40. In designing iOS and the iPhone, Apple was faced with a problem that previously plagued its desktop and laptop computers throughout the 1980s and 1990s. In that era, Apple took an almost entirely proprietary approach to its hardware and software. That approach, however, severely limited the scope of Apple's software offerings and put it at a decided competitive disadvantage against others, such as Microsoft and OEMs that used the Windows operating system, who took a much more open approach to software. Apple thus carved out only a very small, niche market share during that era, and in fact almost went bankrupt as a result. Indeed, it was not until Apple relented and stopped trying to prevent third party developers from operating in its software application markets that its fortunes turned around.

- 41. Guided by this historical lesson and by Cydia and others' early success (and popularity), Apple realized soon after introducing the iPhone that it needed to offer at least the appearance of broad choice of software to use on its new smartphone. This was particularly so because other companies—notably, Google, Microsoft, and Blackberry—were developing their own smartphones and had a much more open history regarding third parties' ability to create and sell applications for their respective platforms. Apple therefore, as discussed above, introduced the App Store in July 2008 and thereafter actively tried to encourage the appearance of a robust market for iOS apps. Touting the choice and breadth of apps the App Store presumably enabled, Apple has consistently used the availability of third party applications to fuel the demand for the iPhone and its iOS operating system. Indeed, Apple promoted the iPhone by heavily advertising third party applications and stating, "there's an app for that."
- 42. Apple's efforts have succeeded to drive demand for its iOS devices, including the iPhone, in competition with devices running other operating systems. In the U.S. alone,

High switching costs prevent users from switching from one operating system to

another operating system after they initially purchase a mobile device. These switching costs

increase over time for a variety of reasons, including, among other things, the cost of the mobile

device (typically hundreds, if not over a thousand, dollars); the user's familiarity with the

operating system and unwillingness to learn a different operating system; the user's familiarity

with apps on that operating system; the users' costs sunk into purchased applications that are not

compatible with other operating systems, which is amplified by the restrictions on the App Store

and the inability of App Store developers to communicate freely with their users; and the costs of

hardware purchased to support the mobile devices utilizing that operating system (e.g., power

cords, wireless mouse/keyboards, wireless headphones, other device-specific peripherals), which

would have to be incurred anew if the user switched to a different type of device. Moreover,

switching costs for mobile devices—particularly for iOS devices, due to Apple's typically extreme

practices—have increased dramatically in recent years with the advent of cloud computing, which,

inter alia, allows users to store their files on the "cloud" (i.e., not directly on their device). As

specifically relevant to Apple, iOS users' photos, videos, music files, and other personal files are

often stored on iCloud and only accessible on other Apple devices. Although users may obtain

copies of those files, Apple has made doing neither easy nor intuitive, and thus made it very

difficult for users to effectuate this kind of transition. This means that iOS users become more and

more locked into iOS devices, because they wish to have continued access to their personal files—

and this is a switching cost they have little ability to understand or appreciate before purchasing an

1 | 2 |

43.

consumers own nearly 200 million iPhones, and tens of millions of other iOS devices, including iPads.³³ All of those devices run only iOS applications.

44. These high switching costs, which were (and are) not readily apparent to the vast majority of iPhone users before they purchase their devices, were nevertheless apparent to Apple

19

26

27

28

23

24

25

iOS device.

https://www.statista.com/statistics/242269/apple-iphone-in-the-usa-sales-since-2nd-quarter-2007/.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

early on. This led it to realize that it could make enormous additional profits if it exerted complete control over the various aftermarkets into which iPhone users were locked once they purchased their device. As noted above, one of these markets was for iOS app distribution, which, based on historical practice (as well as Apple's ex-iOS practice) was a market characterized by third parties competing with Apple for the distribution and sale of apps for iOS devices. Once it realized (based on Cydia and others' example) that iOS app distribution was a significant opportunity and that smartphones made electronic app distribution uniquely attractive and profitable, Apple began taking drastic steps that continue to this day via separate and new acts to, inter alia, ensure that it controlled every aspect of iOS app distribution, preinstalling the App Store app on every model of the iPhone that has come out since 2008 (including every model within the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit) and insisting via contracts with both consumers and developers that they use the App Store as the sole marketplace and distributor for iOS apps instead of more traditional channels, such as developers' websites, general websites, competing electronic marketplaces, and even brick and mortar stores. Apple exerted this control because, once it forced its way into that gatekeeper role, Apple was able to completely control (and maintain control of) the aftermarket for iOS apps (via its power over iOS app developers who wanted to sell to iOS device users) and accordingly increase its profits at an exponential rate.

45. As noted above, today, users who want apps on their iOS devices *must* download those applications from Apple's iOS App Store app. By means of technological updates to each new version of iOS (including each version released in the four years preceding this lawsuit), intentionally-exclusionary design choices for each new version of the iPhone released since 2008 (including every new model in the four years preceding this lawsuit), as well as the contractual restraints discussed herein—which it has applied, modified, and enforced in ever-more-restrictive ways to every new iPhone activation, every new version of iOS since 2008, and every app developer that has listed or updated an app on the App Store, including in the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit—Apple has engaged in a continuous campaign to prevent iPhone users and iOS app developers from using or selecting other third party services in order to distribute iOS apps, and has made it harder and harder to do so up through the present via the new

456

8 9 10

13 14 15

11

12

1617

19

18

2021

2223

242526

2728

overt acts described herein, even though those third party app distribution services may be obtained by consumers directly from the internet rather than through the App Store.

46. Furthermore, although it has long harmed competition through these measures, Apple recently (i.e., from 2018-2021) implemented design changes in iOS that finally made it so no iOS app distributor (like Cydia) could actually provide an app that was even useable on iOS devices. These new technological constraints were an increased and more aggressive version of semi-regular technological updates Apple made as part of its broader anticompetitive scheme from 2008-2018, where it would make a change to iOS every six to nine months to impede rival app stores' ability to operate on both existing and new models of iPhone devices. During that 2008-2018 period, the technological changes Apple made to iOS and to its new iPhones devices caused regular problems for those competitors—one of which was always Cydia—but acted mainly to damage their ability to obtain customers for their platform, while not fully excluding them from the market. The more aggressive acts Apple took beginning in 2018 and culminating in 2019 and 2020, however, made it so that rival app stores could not operate nearly at all on both existing and new models of iPhones, thus representing a dramatically-escalated version of Apple's anticompetitive conduct, and one that finally excluded rivals that had continued to compete, albeit in hampered form, for the previous decade. In this way, Apple is significantly different than other companies. For example, in the Android operating system, Android users can download Android applications from multiple application marketplaces—including Google's Play Store, Amazon's Appstore, and Samsung's Galaxy Store. Apple takes multiple, active steps to prevent anything similar for iOS devices, including both technologically and contractually preventing users and application developers from circumventing that prohibition.

47. All of this is highly problematic because, as also noted above, apps must be designed to run on a specific operating system. A device running iOS can only run apps designed for iOS. Thus, once a user selects iOS as their operating system by purchasing an Apple device, that user can only run applications designed for iOS on their device. This means that, for iOS users, apps written for other operating systems are not interchangeable at all with iOS apps, because they cannot be used on an iOS device. Put differently, iOS apps exist in an aftermarket,

much the same as Windows apps exist in their own aftermarket and Android apps exist in their own aftermarket. The operating system on a user's device, once they purchase that device, defines and limits the universe of apps from which they can choose any alternatives (let alone reasonable alternatives).

48. App developers, who are also customers in the iOS app distribution market—because the app distributor(s) offer a service and product that facilitates locating, selling, and installing the developer's app—face a similar reality. The existence of other mobile device operating systems is meaningless to developers who program apps and in-app products for use on iOS devices, because it does not change the markets into which those apps are sold and developers cannot take a one-size-fits-all approach to app development. Developers may learn to code in the Swift or Objective-C programming languages—i.e., the two main programming languages for iOS apps—and they and their employees, if any, may not know how to code in a different programming language applicable to devices running on a different operating system. Regardless of what programming languages they know, however, developers cannot simply run a program to convert iOS applications to the code used for a different operating system environment in the way that one might convert a Word document to a PDF; instead, the apps must be written anew in the code for that device or system.

49. Based on these differences, a move away from the iOS system would mean that a developer could no longer offer its iOS apps or in-app products to tens of millions of consumers (who would have no other way to buy these products for their devices), and the developer would have no substitute available, because it could not sell its iOS app(s) into a different market for mobile apps, such as for the Android or Windows operating systems. And, even if one engaged in the time and expense to reprogram an iOS app for Android, Windows, etc., distributing it through an app distribution service geared toward apps written for that other operating system would have (and has) no effect on Apple's pricing for iOS app distribution services.³⁴

Moreover, even app developers that offer cross-platform apps (*e.g.*, Minecraft, Epic) can exert no pricing pressure on Apple for iOS app distribution by using marketplaces for other OS's (footnote continued)

25

apps. This is because, for cross-platform apps, different operating systems are *complements*, not substitutes.

50. Thus, other app distribution services for other operating systems offer no competitive downward pressure on iOS app distribution pricing. Google's distribution services, which are tied to offerings in its Google Play store, do not cover iOS products—only Android OS products distributed via Google Play. The same is true of Amazon.com's distribution services, which are tied to its app distribution service—these, too, are solely for Android OS products, and never for iOS items.

51. In previously-filed legal actions regarding Apple's Store-related App anticompetitive conduct, Apple has argued that consumers sometimes have multiple devices running different operating systems, and that this somehow means there is not a market (or aftermarket) for iOS app distribution. Such an argument, however, is factually incorrect. As an initial matter, different types of computing devices are not reasonable substitutes for one another, due to both switching costs and imperfect information. (A user will not buy a laptop, for example, just because they want to avoid restrictions on a phone or tablet. They purchase the laptop because of its unique form factor and the computing purposes to which the user wants to put the device.) But, even if this were not the case, consumers typically purchase and use just one smartphone mobile device at a time. The same goes for other types of computing devices, such as tablet computers or laptops. The apps available to a consumer are therefore typically confined to the operating system on each device; it is not as if the typical user has one smartphone for email, one smartphone for playing games, and one smartphone for watching videos. But, even if that were the case, on each device a user owns and uses, they can only run apps written for that device's operating system. Thus, if a consumer has an iPhone and a Windows laptop, they will need apps written for iOS and Windows, respectively, even if those apps perform the same essential functions (e.g., web browsing, email, etc.).

24

26

27

52. Notably, Apple admits that it shuts out all competition from app distribution to iOS device consumers, ostensibly to protect its device customers from bad apps and malware. But this is overblown pretense.³⁵ There is no reason to believe that Cydia or other reputable vendors could not host an app store and provide a trustworthy app distribution system if Apple were to cease excluding and undermining competitors; indeed, Apple's smartphone competitors (*e.g.*, Google) explicitly permit competing app distribution services, which shows that Apple's actions and justifications to the contrary are pretense. Apple also permits third party app distribution to its macOS-compatible devices, and, in limited instances, even on iPhones where there are extenuating circumstances for Apple's broader business (such as its 2017 decision to permit WeChat to distribute apps as "miniprograms" within the WeChat app on iPhones despite Apple's recognition that it presented the same issues as Cydia and other alternative app stores, because Apple could not afford to alienate WeChat due to its much broader market penetration in Asia).³⁶

(ii) <u>iOS app payment processing</u>

- 53. Since they first began offering iOS apps, many third party developers have not only sold those apps for a fee up front, but also built purchase options into their apps, such as upgraded versions of the app, special game options (*e.g.*, tokens, special outfits, extra characters, etc.), subscriptions to an app-based service, or other features not offered as part of the initial app download. In order to effectuate such purchases, the app developer must use a payment processing service. That service takes the user's payment information and runs it through the appropriate credit, debit, or other payment network to complete the sale.
- 54. In order to maximize the user experience, app developers prefer that any payments occur in-app. This is because directing a user out of the app to complete a purchase reduces

³⁵ For example, Apple allows developers that pay it extra for "enterprise" accounts to avoid many of the so-called security restrictions of the App Store. *See* https://developer.apple.com/programs/enterprise/.

³⁶ See, e.g., https://distillingfrenzy.notion.site/Part-4-Apple-s-Worst-Frenemy-a8ace8b4283f4b63bfb34d14aef9eb40

engagement with the app and increases the chance that the user will not complete the purchase transaction, due to the higher "friction" of the experience. Accordingly, as a practical matter, developers must include payment options directly in their apps, else they risk losing consumer engagement.

- 55. Just as distribution for software for a specific OS has historically been a robust and separate market from the devices running that OS, so, too, has payment processing for apps written on different OSes. Application developers on Windows machines, for example, had multiple different options to process payments made through their software, including proprietary systems or third party options. That practice continues to this day outside of the iOS ecosystem, including in Apple's macOS ecosystem.
- 56. Nevertheless, similar to iOS apps themselves, a payment processing service for iOS apps must be written specifically for iOS. More specifically, in order to work, the payment processing service must be able to integrate into and/or interact with not only the app itself, but also certain portions of the broader operating system. The only available alternatives for iOS app developers are thus payment processing services written for iOS.
- 57. Similar to iOS app distribution, Apple realized early on that controlling iOS app payment processing by excluding competitors would generate massive profits for itself. Apple therefore began to impose contractual terms that iOS developers agree to exclusively use Apple for app payment processing, else face exclusion from the App Store. Apple has continued to do so for every new iPhone activation and on every new model of iPhone ever since, including for every new device activation and device model in the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit. Apple has also changed the terms of these agreements in an ever-more-restrictive fashion so as to shore up perceived "holes" in developers' ability to use other iOS app payment processing services, including in the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit. And, Apple has strictly enforced these contractual terms every year since, including such famous examples in the four years preceding this lawsuit as kicking Epic Games off the App Store for daring to try to

use its own payment processing services rather than Apple's IAP ("in-app purchase") API.³⁷ Indeed, Apple argued successfully to this Court in that lawsuit that Epic's decision to do so violated its contracts with Apple, thus representing an example of Apple's active enforcement of these anticompetitive terms within four years (i.e., a new overt act harming competition within the limitations period). See Samsung, 747 F.3d at 1203 (in [Pace], we held that certain actions taken to enforce contracts made in violation of the antitrust laws were sufficient to restart the statute of limitations"); Columbia Steel, 111 F.3d 1427 (enforcing a anticompetitive contract—even one that was entered into beyond the limitations period—constitutes a new overt act); Eichman, 880 F.2d at 160 ("To restart the statute of limitations in a tying situation, [a plaintiff] must show that [a defendant] had the ability [to] and actually did enforce the tie during the limitations period."). Just as importantly, Apple made multiple public statements aimed at developers as a whole demonstrating that its decisions regarding Epic Games were meant to serve as a warning to all others not to dare violate Apple's rules and contracts, else pay the price.³⁸ This served to continue to harm competition for alternative iOS app distribution and payment processing services. Facebook, 2022 WL 141561, at *34 (noting that public statements that served to continue to harm competition more broadly constituted overt acts restarting the limitations period).

17

18

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

Apple continues to exclude any apps that compete (now or in the future) with features that Apple plans to release itself. https://twitter.com/keleftheriou/status/1437845736951992321; https://www.theverge.com/2019/6/4/18651190/apple-ios-13-mac-os-catalina-third-party-apps-products-copy-wwdc-2019;; https://www.theverge.com/2018/6/5/17428598/ios-12-apps-features-third-party-clones-bitmoji-houseparty;

https://www.theverge.com/2020/2/11/21133023/apple-bluemail-blix-restored-mac-app-store-sherlocking-patent-lawsuit. These are categorical examples of apps that could find a home on a competing app store, such as Cydia.

³⁸ See, e.g., https://www.theverge.com/2020/8/17/21373108/apple-response-epic-app-store-fortnite-lawsuit (""The problem Epic has created for itself is one that can easily be remedied if they submit an update of their app that reverts it to comply with the guidelines they agreed to and which apply to all developers.") (emphasis added). Indeed, even after Epic was forced to acquiesce to Apple's contractual restrictions, Apple continued to vindictively exclude Epic from the App Store as a lesson to others, and continues to do so to this day. https://twitter.com/TimSweeneyEpic/status/1440711467888615431.

58. Apple was able to impose these terms and coerce app developers into agreeing to them because of its monopoly power over iOS app distribution. The net result was to make Apple the sole option for iOS app payment processing, even when app developers wanted other options due to the high commission (30%) that Apple charged for such processing. Apple announced in 2020 that it planned to lower its 30% commission for businesses reporting "proceeds" of less than \$1 million per year.³⁹ Apple also more recently announced a proposed settlement with the developers in the Cameron class action (that this Court preliminarily approved), in which it agreed to relax some of the rules regarding developers' use of alternative payment processing services These policy changes demonstrate that Apple's restrictions on both payment processing and iOS app distribution were a choice, not a requirement, and that Apple was always able to compete on price and that any justifications it provides for the 30% commission are pretextual in nature and not procompetitive. The truth is that, based on its substantial monopoly power, Apple chose to impose anticompetitive restraints, chose to apply anticompetitive design choices, chose to implement exclusionary changes to iOS, and chose to charge excessive royalties to developers that would have been particularly inclined to seek out competitive services such as Cydia.

59. One particularly notable example of Apple's dominance of this market is Spotify. In an attempt to get around Apple's burdensome commission for its app payment processing service, Spotify began directing iOS app users to its website when they wanted to purchase a subscription to its music streaming service. In exchange for the inconvenience of leaving the app to make a purchase (which greatly detracted from the user experience), Spotify offered a lower subscription fee. If users nevertheless purchased a subscription through the iOS app instead, Spotify charged a higher fee because of Apple's 30% tax. In response, Apple threatened to kick Spotify off the App Store if it did not use Apple's iOS payment processing service and did not

25

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

26

^{39 &}lt;u>https://developer.apple.com/news/?id=i7jzeefs.</u>

charge a uniform (higher) fee across all types of devices. Spotify was forced to comply, although it complained to regulators, because it had no other option for iOS app payment processing. 40

60. Most other iOS app developers do not even have the option to fight back in the way Spotify did. Instead, they must simply toe the line and obey Apple's command, despite the widely-held desire to avoid Apple's commission for app-related payments in whatever ways possible. But, because they cannot do so without risking complete exclusion from the App Store, they must comply and, for any app-related payment, use Apple's iOS app payment processing service and none other, despite that alternatives exist and are available.

(iii) Monopoly power

61. As the above facts indicate, Apple clearly has monopoly power in both relevant markets (or aftermarkets). Apple has complete control over prices in both markets and is able to raise them at will. For example, in both markets, Apple can (and does) charge whatever it wants for its commission. This has led to Apple charging a much higher commission, and in far more instances, than would have otherwise occurred in a market in which Apple had competitors who could have, inter alia, charged lower commissions, offered better benefits in exchange for their commissions, reduced the number of instances in which they charged commissions, or other competitive acts constraining Apple's pricing behavior. Next, as discussed above, Apple has the absolute power to exclude competitors from each market. Next, due to its anticompetitive conduct, Apple has obtained and maintained nearly 100% market share in each relevant market. Finally, Apple's monopoly power in each market is protected by high barriers to entry, including (a) the required investment to build and maintain an app store and/or a payment processing service for iOS devices, (b) requisite software and algorithms for an app store and/or a payment processing service, (c) intellectual property licensing requirements, (d) the scale necessary to achieve cost efficiencies, and (e) Apple's exclusionary and anticompetitive conduct.

28

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

Faced with such public scrutiny, Apple agreed that Spotify user subscriptions would only be subject to the 30% commission for the first year, and then drop to 15% every year after. But the 30% tax on the first year is itself the damaging tax, and Apple forces this on Spotify in order to make its own Apple Music service appear more attractive, price-wise.

- 62. App developers cannot constrain Apple's anticompetitive conduct in the iOS app distribution or iOS app payment processing markets by declining to develop apps for iOS. If a developer does not develop apps for iOS, the developer must forgo *all* of the one billion plus iOS users. No developer has sufficiently important or attractive apps to overcome the network effects and switching costs associated with iOS to entice enough iOS users to leave iOS, such that developing apps solely for other platforms would be profitable. Thus, developers need to be on iOS.
- 63. Similarly, competition in the sale of mobile devices does not constrain Apple's power in the iOS app distribution or iOS app payment processing markets (or aftermarkets) because, as discussed above, iOS device users face substantial switching costs and lock-in to the iOS ecosystem. Further, regardless of competition in the sale of mobile devices, competition at the smartphone level would not constrain Apple's power in the iOS app distribution market because consumers cannot adequately account for and therefore constrain Apple's anticompetitive conduct through their purchasing behavior. The same is true of competition at the tablet level.
- 64. The relevant geographic market for each market is the U.S. There are no material geographic barriers to competition for iOS app distribution or iOS app payment processing.
- 65. Apple is also an attempted monopolist in the U.S. markets (or aftermarkets) for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing. Given that the facts alleged amply support a finding that Apple has always maintained monopoly power in these markets, they no doubt support a finding that Apple is attempting to monopolize both by improper, intentional means.

3. Apple's Anticompetitive Conduct and the Antitrust Injury

66. Apple has harmed competition by excluding competitors for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing through a variety of unreasonable, exclusionary, and predatory means. Historically, Apple did not exclude such competition, as there were, for example, robust markets for distributing Mac apps (e.g., brick and mortar stores, websites, multiple different online marketplaces) and for payment processing on Apple devices (e.g., app developers' proprietary payment processing services, PayPal, etc.). Given the profits Apple realized it could reap,

however, by entering those markets itself and controlling them through iOS, it changed course and now unreasonably excludes nearly all competition.

respect to Cydia and other alternative app stores because those competitors not only act as an

alternative to the App Store in general, but—particularly for Cydia—also provide a distribution

channel for apps that Apple rejected from the App Store due to Apple's extensive business

conflicts and predatory/exclusionary practices. For example, Apple banned apps from its App

Store that supported Google Voice because, on information and belief, Apple sought to advantage

its own services over Google's. ⁴¹ Apple has also at times imposed restrictions on applications that

can utilize cellular service, including an app called Slingplayer, and others. Apple has banned

apps that have been used by peaceful protesters, ⁴² and has also worked with hackers that leveraged

iOS apps to suppress migrant and minority groups. 43 Apple routinely punishes app developers that

speak out against its policies, including Epic (the maker of Fortnite that is currently embroiled in a

lawsuit against Apple), or those that work to support fair competition in the app distribution

(including those models and versions released within the four years preceding the original

complaint in this lawsuit), consistently applied ever-more-restrictive means to try and snuff out

alternative app stores (of which Cydia is and has always been the largest) and for years effectively

limited them to just a tiny swath of iPhone owners before finally excluding them in total in 2019

and 2020. To this end, Apple first attempted to argue it was illegal for iPhone owners to fully

Apple has, with every new model of the iPhone and every new version of iOS

3

(i) Anticompetitive conduct in iOS app distribution

Apple's practices in the iOS app distribution market are particularly insidious with

45

67.

market, like Toyota.⁴⁴

68.

6

7

8

10

12

11

13 14

15

1617

18 19

20

2122

23

2425

https://www.vox.com/recode/2019/10/23/20927577/apple-hong-kong-protest-appdemocracy; https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/09/technology/apple-hong-kong-app.html.

26

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-apple-cyber/apple-says-uighurs-targeted-in-iphone-attack-but-disputes-google-findings-idUSKCN1VR29K.

30

27

⁴¹ See https://daringfireball.net/2009/08/apples fcc response.

⁴⁴ https://jalopnik.com/even-toyota-is-apples-bitch-5789431.

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

1

control their own devices, as they do on Apple's Mac devices, and use distribution channels like Cydia that users could obtain directly from the internet, as opposed to through Apple's App Store. Apple filed a 27-page argument with the U.S. Copyright Office stating that obtaining the sort of access necessary to implement Cydia would or should be illegal. However, Apple lost that battle decisively; the Copyright Office found that such activities were not illegal, and in fact are supported by the copyright laws.

69. Given this loss, Apple turned to contractual and technological restraints over Cydia's and other alternative app stores' potential customers (iPhone users and iOS app developers) to exclude those competitor iOS app distributors. Over the years (including in the four years leading up to this lawsuit, as described above), Apple has continuously modified its App Store policies to preclude iOS app developers from attempting to distribute their apps through any channel except the App Store and to shore up perceived holes in the terms that might permit developers to distribute their apps or process in-app payments through alternatives other than Apple's App Store and/or its IAP API. It has also imposed these regularly-updated contractual terms on every new iPhone activation (i.e., a new contract for every new device purchase) and on every new model of the iPhone that Apple released, including every new model released in the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit, as well as the models released since. See Samsung, 747 F.3d at 1203-1204 (imposing an anticompetitive contract with respect to new device not covered by the original contract is a new overt act); id. at 1204 (imposing anticompetitive agreement, even if it was "merely a restatement of" an earlier anticompetitive agreement, on new party for the first time constitutes a new overt act); Hennegan, 787 F.2d at 1301 (actions to steer away customers from plaintiff's business within four years of the lawsuit each constituted a new overt act, even though the scheme to steer such customers away began more than four years earlier); Facebook, Inc., 2022 WL 141561, at *33-34 (finding new overt acts and rejecting argument that they were not "new and independent" because they were a "reaffirmation of a previous strategy," and in particular noting the defendant provided "no authority for its argument that an act is not 'new and independent' simply because the defendant

has previously committed the same type of act as part of a unified anticompetitive strategy");

7 8

https://embed.documentcloud.org/documents/21043938-2017-august-federighi-shoots-down-liquidsky-buy/#document/p3

https://embed.documentcloud.org/documents/21043956-2018-march-apple-erb-rejects-tribe-store-within-store-games-chat-wechat-messenger/#document/p1

PBTM, 511 F. Supp. 3d at 1182 ("for a claim alleging an unlawful tying arrangement, the cause of action first accrues when the arrangement was executed or became effective"); Garnica v. HomeTeam Pest Defense, Inc., 2015 WL 3766514, at *2 (N.D. Cal. June 16, 2015) (denying statute of limitations motion to dismiss because allegations suggested new overt acts, including, inter alia, that the defendant "may well have altered the terms of its agreement" in an anticompetitive way within the limitations period).

70. Apple has selectively and arbitrarily enforced those policies to make it more difficult for Cydia and all other iOS app distributors to compete. For example, in August 2017, Apple rejected a cloud gaming platform from LiquidSky because, according to Apple, that platform included a "sub app store" that allowed games to be purchased elsewhere to be run on their platform.⁴⁵ And, in March 2018, Apple did the same to Tribe, which it contended had "a store within our store."⁴⁶ These and other examples abound, but are particularly notable for this amended complaint because they occurred within the four years preceding the original complaint in this action and were new overt acts of the same type as Apple long practiced to limit and harm competition from all alternatives, such as Cydia. *See also* FAC n.16 (other examples of applications excluded and/or copied by Apple in that time period).

71. Apple thus actively used its enforcement powers enabled by the contracts it forced on iOS app developers to exclude competition—thus constituting an example of new overt acts in support of its long-running scheme. *See Samsung*, 747 F.3d at 1203 (in [*Pace*], we held that certain actions taken to enforce contracts made in violation of the antitrust laws were sufficient to restart the statute of limitations"); *Columbia Steel*, 111 F.3d 1427 (enforcing a anticompetitive contract—even one that was entered into beyond the limitations period—constitutes a new overt act); *Eichman*, 880 F.2d at 160 ("To restart the statute of limitations in a tying situation, [a

plaintiff] must show that [a defendant] had the ability [to] and actually did enforce the tie during the limitations period.").

72. Similarly in June 2019, a store called AltStore, which would have allowed iPhone uses to download apps without jailbreaking their phone, was made available for download directly from the internet outside of the App Store. Soon thereafter, Apple killed this new offering because of the competitive threat it represented, once again by changing its code specifically to prevent that alternative app store from working.⁴⁷ Notably, AltStore relied on a modified version of Cydia's open source software, and the efforts Apple implemented against AltStore applied with equal force to Cydia's marketplace.

73. Underscoring that these exclusions were Apple's enforcement *choice* (rather than the unabated inertial consequence of the policy of exclusion that it first put in place in 2008) is the competing example of WeChat, which is a multi-purpose instant messaging, social media and mobile payment app that is incredibly popular in Asia (with over 1 billion monthly active users). In early 2017, Apple allowed WeChat to distribute apps as "miniprograms" within the WeChat system.⁴⁸

^{22 | 47} See https://twitter.com/altstoreio/status/1192547623317585920; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-N01u8_H8kI.

Roblox is another example within the four year preceding the original complaint of Apple creating a special exception for an app that distributes other apps (in this case, games) being permitted in the App Store. See https://www.theverge.com/2021/5/14/22436014/apple-roblox-epic-fortnite-trial-what-is-game-name-change (noting that every instance of Roblox being described to distribute "games" was changed to distributing "experiences," likely due to the Epic v. Apple case); see also https://www.theverge.com/2021/7/7/22457264/roblox-explainer-game-app-faq.

Apple has taken similar steps with respect to iOS payment processing services. For

example, Apple specifically revised its developer program license agreement to prohibit

23

24

25

26

27

28

74.

developers from facilitating distribution of apps from any source other than the App Store, and it has become infamous in recent years for pausing or delaying app approval on an ad hoc basis if app developers do not add more revenue-generating features for Apple, such as in-app purchases. News stories of this practice have abounded over the years, including in particular in the four years leading up to this lawsuit. Examples include Apple insisting on such anticompetitive restraints for Spotify (2017),⁴⁹ WordPress (2020),⁵⁰ cloud gaming from Microsoft (which Apple insisted involve an App Store application and review for every game made available, so that it could control in-app purchases for each game rather than an overarching cloud gaming app) (2020),⁵¹ and, of course Epic Games (2020). iOS app developers have no choice but to abide by these obligations if they wish to sell their apps in the iOS app market, and they agree when they become iOS developers to adhere to every new iteration of the App Store policies, which Apple has imposed on them anew within the four years preceding this lawsuit (and thus, constituting a new overt act). See Samsung, 747 F.3d at 1203-1204 (imposing an anticompetitive contract with respect to new device not in existence at time of the original contract is a new overt act); id. at 1204 (imposing anticompetitive agreement, even if it was "merely a restatement of" an earlier anticompetitive agreement, on new party for the first time constitutes a new overt act). Apple thus coerces them into only using the App Store (else face effective exclusion from iOS users) and into only using Apple's iOS payment processing services. 75. Apple has also continuously implemented ever more restrictive measures to prevent 22 users from gaining access to their devices and installing Cydia as a competitive app store. Its first

efforts in this regard—which it has included on each new iPhone and every new iPhone model

https://www.theverge.com/2019/3/16/18268811/spotify-apple-european-commissionantitrust-statement-war-of-words

See, e.g., https://www.theverge.com/2020/8/21/21396316/apple-wordpress-in-apppurchase-tax-update-store

https://www.macrumors.com/2021/12/09/microsoft-apple-cloud-gaming-negotiations/

sold for nearly a decade (including the four years preceding this lawsuit), and in updates to iOS throughout that time—Apple created technical restrictions it built into iOS that largely prevent users from downloading and installing competing app stores or apps that are made available directly on websites. Apple placed technical restrictions on app installation through entitlements and code signing to prohibit competition in this way, a practice that first began in 2008 and occurred every six to nine months, but then escalated with more permanently-exclusionary restrictions beginning in 2018 and culminating in changes in late 2019 that led to effectively complete exclusion in 2019 and 2020 (thus leading to this lawsuit). Consequently, iOS app developers were (and are) required to distribute apps through the App Store and consumers must use the App Store to download these apps to their iOS devices; there is no longer any alternative after Apple's new acts in 2019 to finally prevent all such competition from a technological perspective.

76. More specifically, Apple's 2018 and 2019 technical restrictions included introducing runtime code modification prevention, pointer authentication, physical map codesigning, memory tagging extensions, and other control mechanisms that specifically target and prevent Cydia and alternatives like Cydia from competing with Apple because they effectively prevent users from using Cydia or any other alternative app store on iOS at all—even if they wish to obtain such alternatives through the internet (*i.e.*, outside of the App Store) to modify their phone through lawful means. Apple's late 2018 change foreclosed competition on iPhone XS and later models (*i.e.*, models released September 2018 and afterward), and its late 2019 changes made it so app store competitors like Cydia could no longer operate on *earlier* models, meaning that, for the first time in 2019, Apple finally succeeded in excluding all competition on pre-September 2018 iPhone models. These restrictions have completely wiped out Cydia's ability to serve its users (as opposed to pre-2018 attempts that only temporarily excluded Cydia and served more to hinder its competitiveness than eliminate it entirely), and are the primary impetus for the timing and urgency of Cydia's Complaint. Indeed, in an internal email from 2019,

As this and multiple other instances from that time period confirm (*see supra* for examples), Apple did not simply rest on a policy it first implemented in 2008 or 2009; it took active steps every year since then—particularly within the four years preceding the original complaint in this lawsuit—to stave off and finally cripple competition from alternatives such as Cydia; a process that did not result in complete exclusion until 2020.

77. Apple also pre-installs the App Store app on the home screen of every iOS device it sells (including every new model of the iPhone it introduced for the first time in the four years preceding this lawsuit) and disables users' ability on every one of those devices to uninstall the App Store app or to make any other app marketplace or iOS app distribution channel their default. Apple does not permit any other app stores on iOS devices, both through the technical restrictions described above and through its contractual policies, such as the Apple Developer Agreement, Section 3.2.2. It also prevents users from downloading apps through websites, and punishes app developers that attempt to utilize such means.

(ii) iOS app payment processing

- 78. With respect to iOS app payment processing, Apple wields its power over iOS app distribution to force iOS app developers to agree to use Apple's iOS app payment processing services to the exclusion of all others, including both the app developers' own processing services and third party services. iOS app payment processing service providers, such as Cydia, therefore have no ability to provide such services to iOS app developers.
- 79. More specifically, Apple imposes unreasonable restraints and unlawfully maintains its monopoly in the iOS app payment processing market through several anticompetitive acts, including contractual and policy restrictions on app developers. There is no procompetitive justification for these anticompetitive acts.
- 80. Developers seeking to distribute their apps on the App Store are required to follow Apple's App Store Review Guidelines or risk Apple rejecting or removing their app from the App Store. (Developer Agreement § 6.3, Ex. A.) Section 3.1.1 of these guidelines provides that "if you

[the developer] want to unlock features or functionality within your app, (by way of example: subscriptions, in-game currencies, game levels, access to premium content, or unlocking a full version), you must use in-app purchase. Apps may not use their own mechanisms to unlock content or functionality . . . Apps and their metadata may not include buttons, external links, or other calls to action that direct customers to purchasing mechanisms other than in-app purchase""

- 81. Additionally, Section 3.1.3 of the guidelines provides that developers may not "directly or indirectly target iOS users to use a purchasing method other than [Apple's] in-app purchase, and general communications [to users] about other purchasing methods [must not be] designed to discourage use of [Apple's] in-app purchase"
- 82. These guidelines describe Apple's anticompetitive tying policy: an app developer's access to the App Store—the only means to reach Apple's substantial iOS user base—is conditioned on the developer's use of Apple's payment processing services to process payments for apps and in-app content. But Apple's policies take it yet another step further, gagging developers from even informing users of other payment options outside the app or from discouraging its users from using Apple's payment system. These policies serve to cement Apple's monopoly position in the iOS payment processing market (or aftermarket).
- 83. As noted above, Apple prevents developers from utilizing competing payment processing services, like Cydia's, through a combination of new contracts imposed on new developers listing their apps for the first time, insisting that developers accept Apple's updated terms whenever it issues them (thus constituting a new contract for those existing developers),⁵² and through enforcing its exclusionary terms to force and otherwise coerce developers to use only Apple's iOS app payment processing services. All of these acts occurred millions of times in the four years preceding this lawsuit, including the notable examples cited in Paragraph 74 above. Each of these actions served to prevent customers from using Cydia's and other competitors' products and thus constituted new acts that either steered customers away from Cydia or other

competitors, or prevented such customers from using those services at all. See, e.g., Hennegan, 787 F.2d at 1301 (actions to steer away customers from plaintiff's business within four years of the lawsuit each constituted a new overt act, even though the scheme to steer such customers away began more than four years earlier). Put differently, although Cydia and other alternative providers' relationship with Apple is that of competitors (i.e., Cydia and other competitors did not ask Apple to deal with them for the provision of their iOS app distribution and/or payment processing services), Apple's new developer contracts in the four years preceding this lawsuit, as well as its actions in the past four years to enforce contracts, new and old, deprived Cydia and similar competitors of customers and opportunities to grow market share.

(iii) The harm to competition from these anticompetitive acts, and Cydia's antitrust injury

84. In each of the above scenarios, iOS users are unable to constrain Apple's anticompetitive activities in either of the relevant markets (or aftermarkets) because (a) much of Apple's behavior is behind the scenes and invisible to them; (b) they have little ability to learn about Apple's behavior before they make an iPhone or other iOS device purchase; (c) they become locked into their smartphone or other mobile device purchase at the time of purchase, due to the cost, investment, and longevity of the purchase and associated service contract; and (d) they even become more locked into iOS over time, for the reasons previously discussed. Similarly, iOS app developers are unable to constrain Apple's anticompetitive activities because, if they do not accede to its demands, they are unable to sell into the iOS app market at all. Accordingly, Apple's power has only grown over each of the markets over time, and both iOS users and developers are less and less able to act as a brake on Apple's power and anticompetitive activities.

85. Unfortunately, iOS users' and developers' inability to discipline Apple's misbehavior means that it is able to harm them and competitors in myriad, all-too-inevitable ways. As noted above, Apple excludes competitors in iOS app distribution and iOS app payment

⁵² See http://www.appstorereviewguidelineshistory.com/.

processing, which has the effect, first and foremost, of removing constraints on its pricing

behavior. This has led to higher prices for both iOS app distribution and iOS app payment

processing, including the 30% commission Apple historically charged for all iOS app-related

revenues the App Store generates, and which it continues to charge for any successful app

developer today.⁵³ Apple's conduct has also reduced market output, reduced market innovation,

and plainly reduced both developer and iOS user choice, despite obvious demand for competition

to both the App Store and Apple's iOS app payment processing services. These negative

competitive effects impact developers and end users directly, because Apple is able to offer lower-

quality products at supracompetitive prices with impunity, because it has no fear that doing so will

cause it to lose market share or power. These anticompetitive effects are discussed in further

details below.

86. As a result of its anticompetitive conduct, Apple is also able to pile on additional unnecessary fees, because iOS app developers cannot fight back. One example is a \$99 annual fee Apple collects from all developers who wish to sell their products through the App Store. In June 2017, Apple introduced Rule 4.2.6 into the App Store guidelines which gave it the right to ban any apps that share a code base or template with another app. The rule was subsequently revised in December 2017 so that template apps could be submitted to the App Store again. In this context, Apple made an important change: to successfully submit apps, developers must create a new developer account for each client app—meaning each account required the developer to pay a separate \$99 annual fee for each business. Had Apple not illegally monopolized the market for

monopolistic conduct.

Apple's November 18, 2020 reduction to the commission for developers that generate less than \$1 million in proceeds annually does not undercut this fact. Such developers represent only 5% of the App Store's annual revenues, and they become subject to the higher 30% commission if they are lucky enough to grow. They cannot escape either commission, and cannot use competition to push back against the prices Apple charges. Put in its simplest terms, the recent commission reduction was a PR move, made in response to ever-increasing regulatory scrutiny and a growing recognition that Apple has acted anticompetitively for years. But it still does not change the fundamental problems presented by Apple's continuing and historic illegal,

iOS app distribution, developers either would not have had to pay such an annual fee, or Apple would have had to compete on price for the fee with other competitors, such as Cydia.

- 87. Apple also dictates minimum and greater price points, which prevent developers from offering paid products at less than \$.99 or at price points ending in anything other than \$.99. This pricing mandate inhibits sales and output in app and in-app transactions. There is no lawful justification for this transaction-inhibiting restraint, and, again, faced with competition from alternative distribution channels such as Cydia, Apple would have had to compete to allow more flexibility in pricing for iOS apps.
- 88. The facts and circumstances of app and in-app product distribution do not give rise to any procompetitive justification for Apple's contractual pricing mandates, and Cydia's pricing shows that an app store need not price in the overly burdensome and rigid way Apple does. Cydia, for example, often negotiated over distribution fees with individual developers, negotiated over app featuring and advertising, and generally provided a flexible approach.
- 89. Further underscoring that Apple's pricing for the App Store and its iOS app payment processing services have no legitimate procompetitive justifications, other mobile device ecosystem providers that also provide a marketplace for apps for their mobile OS act in far less restrictive, yet equally effective ways to attract developers to the mobile platform. For example, Microsoft recently announced at its Build 2018 conference a new revenue sharing model for app sales in the Microsoft Store where up to 95% of the revenue from consumer applications, including both individual applications and in-app purchases, will go to the developer. The Microsoft rates contrast with Apple's supra-competitive 30% rate for the vast majority of app and in-app products.
- 90. Apple's monopolistic practices in the U.S. markets (or aftermarkets) for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing eliminate competition and stifle innovation and choice. Further, Apple harms consumers, developers, and competition by depressing output. Evidence shows that consumers of app store products are price sensitive. Apple's overly expensive costs, fees, and pricing inhibit sales of products sold via the App Store. Developers and would-be developers, who can only earn 70% on the dollar on each paid app or product, in

26

27

28

addition to paying \$99 annually (or more for multiple apps) to gain entry to the App Store, undoubtedly think very hard about whether to spend the effort, time, and energy that is required to design and program an app or related product, bring it to market in the single store available, and hope to recoup costs and make a reasonable profit. For many, the calculus makes no economic sense. This process leads to less output in sales and distribution transactions for developers, and thus less output in both the iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing markets overall.

- 91. Apple's anticompetitive behavior also stifles innovation in the U.S. market for iOS app and in-app-product distribution services. For example, Amazon.com devised an alternative way of distributing Android OS apps, Amazon Underground, where Amazon pays developers according to how much time consumers spend interacting with the apps. Yet, Apple's contracts and practices would not allow to utilize such a model.
- 92. Apple's abusive tactics also stifle innovation in apps—another way it hurts competition (and users and developers) generally. When Cydia first started distributing apps, it also distributed "extensions" and "packages," which modified the user's iPhone experience. Apple initially prohibited such packages on its App Store, but later changed its mind once it saw user demand for such applications. Since then, Apple has added "extensions" and "packages" into its definition of "apps," but it slowed down the adoption of such innovations due to an overly narrow view of what it viewed as "appropriate" for the App Store. Cydia, meanwhile, innovated and allowed such creative applications in its marketplace from its earliest days, which clearly responded to consumer demand for a customized iPhone experience. By largely excluding Cydia and other app store competitors, and by taking an iron hand approach to what it views as "permissible" for the iPhone, Apple reduces the number of locations app developers can feature their apps, and prevents them from innovating in any ways that Apple does not prefer. Consumers, as well as developers and competition generally, benefit from other venues, like Cydia, that host iOS apps and, like Cydia has always done, encourage the development of more and better types of apps—including categories that break the mold in term of what "apps" can do. All of these results would engender far more innovation and consumer choice, but are stifled by Apple's dominance over iOS app distribution.

- 93. Apple also harms app developers by denying them the opportunity to choose other means to be compensated for their work. Apple's aggressive, anticompetitive behavior diminishes the choice offered by other marketplaces or distribution channels. Finally, Apple depresses output by being the sole avenue for the distribution of iOS apps and in-app products. This leads to fewer sales, which in turn leads to fewer distribution transactions and fees.
- 94. But for Apple's restrictions, would-be competing app distributors, such as Cydia, could provide consumers and developers choice beyond Apple's own App Store and inject healthy competition into the market. These stores could compete on the basis of (among other things) price, service, and innovation. Competitors could innovate by (among other things) curating the apps available on a competing app store (such as offering selections of apps in particular categories of consumer interest, like gaming, travel, or health), providing more reliable reviews and other information about the apps, showing or advertising apps in different ways, or offering different pricing schemes. For example, in the personal computer space (including Macs), software can be purchased through many different sellers, including online stores provided by an application developer.
- 95. Apple's conduct also increases consumers' costs. Apple's market power permits it to impose a supracompetitive tax on the price of apps purchased through the App Store and payments made through iOS apps—a rate that is far higher than what could be sustained under competitive conditions. Consumers bear some or all of that tax in the form of higher prices or reduced quantity or quality of apps.

INTERSTATE TRADE AND COMMERCE

- 96. Apple's conduct has taken place in and affected the continuous flow of interstate trade and commerce of the United States, in that, *inter alia*:
- (a) Apple has provided iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services throughout the United States;
- (b) Apple has used instrumentalities of interstate commerce to provide iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services throughout the United States;

- (c) In furtherance of the anticompetitive scheme alleged herein, Apple employees have traveled between states and have exchanged communications through interstate wire communications and via U.S. mail; and
- (d) The anticompetitive scheme alleged herein has affected billions of dollars of commerce. Apple has inflicted antitrust injury by artificially excluding Cydia and other competitors, raising prices paid by developers and consumers, and causing the other antitrust injuries described herein.

COUNT I

Sherman Act Section 2 – Monopolization (15 U.S.C. § 2)

- 97. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 98. Apple has willfully acquired and maintained monopoly power in the relevant markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing.
- 99. Apple possesses monopoly power in the relevant market for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing. Apple has the power to control prices or exclude competition in the relevant markets.
- 100. Apple has nearly 100% market share in each of the relevant markets, and there are substantial barriers to new entry in each relevant market.
- 101. Apple has willfully acquired and maintained monopoly power in the relevant markets, by means of predatory, exclusionary, and anticompetitive conduct, including but not limited to lock-in, tying arrangements, coercion of disloyal developers, vertically-arranged boycotts, and leveraging, as alleged herein.

Aftermarket monopolization

102. Due to the information and switching costs described above, iOS device purchasers become locked in to their purchase after making their initial purchase, and then become more locked into the iOS ecosystem over time.

- 103. Once users were locked into iOS devices and the iOS ecosystem, Apple utilized the power that lock-in conferred in order to exclude competition in the iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing markets (or aftermarkets), as described herein.
- 104. Apple's actions, based on the lock-in it obtained has impeded its competitors' ability to compete in both the iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing markets (or aftermarkets).

Tying arrangements – iOS devices and iOS app distribution

- 105. iOS devices are sold in the U.S. smartphone market, but, as described above, Apple obtains lock-in monopoly power over iOS device users once they select an iOS device for purchase.
 - 106. iOS devices and iOS app distribution are two separate services or products.
- 107. Apple has conditioned the operation of an iOS device, as well as the warranty on such a device, on the use of its iOS app distribution service (the App Store).
- 108. Apple has sufficient economic power over locked-in iOS device users to enable it to restrain trade in the relevant market for iOS app distribution.
- 109. Apple's conduct has affected a not insubstantial amount of interstate commerce in iOS app distribution.
- 110. Apple's conduct has had an anticompetitive effect in the relevant market for iOS app distribution.

Tying arrangements – iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing

- 111. iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services are two separate services or products.
- 112. As described herein, Apple has conditioned the provision of iOS app distribution on the use of its iOS app payment processing service.
- 113. Apple has sufficient economic power in the relevant market for iOS app distribution to enable it to restrain trade in the relevant market for iOS app payment processing services.

- 114. Apple's conduct has affected a not insubstantial amount of interstate commerce in the provision of iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing.
- 115. Apple's conduct has had an anticompetitive effect in the relevant markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services.

Coercion of and threats against disloyal developers

- 116. Apple has coerced developers not to work with other iOS app distribution or iOS app payment processing services providers, such as Cydia.
- 117. Apple's threats and coercion have impeded competitors' ability to secure contracts for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services in the United States.
- 118. As described herein, Apple has agreed with and/or coerced iOS app developers not to work with other iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing service providers.
- 119. Apple's threats and coercion have impeded competitors' ability to attract iOS app developer to use their iOS app distribution and/or iOS app payment processing services.

Vertically-arranged boycotts

- 120. Apple has induced and coerced developers to boycott Apple's competitors for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services.
- 121. As described herein, Apple has agreed with, induced, and/or coerced developers to boycott Apple's competitors for iOS app distribution and/or iOS app payment processing services.
- 122. Apple's conduct has foreclosed access to the relevant markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing, which is necessary to enable Apple's competitors in each market to compete.

Exclusive Dealing

- 123. Apple has entered into long-term exclusive dealing arrangements with iOS application developers with respect to the exclusive use of the App Store and Apple's payment processing.
- 124. Apple has similarly entered into long-term exclusive dealing arrangements with iOS device purchasers with respect to the exclusive use of the App Store and Apple's payment processing.

- 125. Apple's arrangements have had the effect of foreclosing competition in a substantial share of the line of commerce affected and each of the relevant markets for iOS app distribution and payment processing.
 - 126. Apple's arrangements cannot be circumvented.
- 127. Apple's arrangements with developers and users are of long duration and not easily terminable as a matter of practical economics.
 - 128. Apple has coerced developers and users to enter into these arrangements.
 - 129. Apple's arrangements are not the product of competition.
- 130. Apple's arrangements have had the effect of substantially lessening competition and tending to create a monopoly in the relevant markets (or aftermarkets) for iOS app distribution and payment processing.

Leveraging

- 131. Apple has monopoly power over locked-in iOS device users, as well as monopoly power in the relevant market for iOS app distribution services.
- 132. Apple has used its lock-in monopoly power over iOS device users in a predatory, exclusionary, and anticompetitive manner to monopolize the relevant market for iOS app distribution, and its monopoly power in iOS app distribution in a predatory, exclusionary, and anticompetitive manner to monopolize the relevant market for iOS app payment processing services.
- 133. Apple possesses a dominant position in the relevant markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing.
- 134. Apple's conduct is not justified, because its conduct is not intended to enhance overall efficiency and to make the relevant markets more efficient.
 - 135. Apple's conduct has had a substantial effect on interstate commerce.
 - 136. Cydia has been or will be injured in their property as a result of Apple's conduct.
- 137. Cydia has suffered and will suffer injury of the type that the antitrust laws were intended to prevent. Cydia has been and will be injured by the harm to competition as a result of Apple's conduct.

1 **COUNT II** 2 Sherman Act Section 2 – Attempted Monopolization 3 138. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth 4 herein. 5 139. In the relevant markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing 6 services, Apple has engaged in predatory, exclusionary, and anticompetitive conduct, including 7 but not limited to lock-in, tying arrangements, coercion of disloyal developers, vertically-arranged 8 boycotts, and leveraging, as alleged herein. 9 140. Apple's conduct has had an anticompetitive effect in the relevant markets for iOS 10 app distribution and iOS app payment processing services. 11 141. Apple's conduct has no legitimate business purpose or procompetitive effect. Apple has engaged in that conduct with the specific intent of monopolizing the 12 142. 13 relevant markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services. 14 143. Apple has engaged in that conduct with a dangerous probability of monopolizing 15 each of the relevant markets. 16 144. Apple's conduct has had a substantial effect on interstate commerce. 17 145. Cydia has been or will be injured in their property as a result of Defendants' 18 conduct. 19 146. Cydia has suffered and will suffer injury of the type that the antitrust laws were intended to prevent. Cydia has been and will be injured by the harm to competition as a result of 20 21 Defendants' conduct. **COUNT III** 22 23 Sherman Act Section 1 – Unreasonable Restraint of Trade 24 147. Cydia restates and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth 25 herein. 26 148. As alleged above, Apple has induced or coerced various developers and consumers 27 have entered into one or more contracts, combinations, or conspiracies to unreasonably restrain

trade, to control prices or exclude competition, and to willfully acquire and maintain monopoly power in the relevant markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services.

- 149. As alleged above, Apple has conditioned the operation of iOS devices for consumers over which they hold lock-in market power on the use of Apple's iOS app distribution service. Also as alleged above, Apple has conditioned iOS app distribution (over which it has market power) on the use of Apple's iOS app payment processing service.
- 150. These contracts, combinations, or conspiracies include but are not limited to tying arrangements and vertically-arranged boycotts.
- 151. Apple's conduct has had an anticompetitive effect in the relevant markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services.
 - 152. Apple's conduct has no legitimate business purpose or procompetitive effect.
- 153. There are less restrictive alternatives to the restraints Apple imposed on the relevant markets for iOS app distribution and iOS app payment processing services.
 - 154. Apple's conduct has had a substantial effect on interstate commerce.
- 155. Cydia has been or will be injured in their property as a result of Defendants' conduct.
- 156. Cydia has suffered and will suffer injury of the type that the antitrust laws were intended to prevent. Cydia has been and will be injured by the harm to competition as a result of Defendants' conduct.

COUNT IV

<u>Unfair Competition – California Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq.</u>

- 157. Cydia restates and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 158. Absent injunctive relief, Cydia will suffer loss of money or property and an economic injury in fact, specifically being forced to terminate contracts with its customers and likely close its business and lay off its employees, and thus has standing to seek relief under section 17200.

1	1	PRAYER FOR RELIEF		
2	Wherefore, Cydia requests the following relief:			
3	3 (a) Damages in a	n amount to be determined;		
4	4 (b) Treble damag	es;		
5	5 (c) Attorneys' fe	es;		
6	6 (d) Costs;			
7	7 (e) Pre-judgment	and post-judgment interest at the maximum rate permitted		
8	under the law;			
9	9 (f) Punitive dam	ages;		
10	10 (g) Injunctive rel	ief, including but not limited to an injunction barring Apple's		
11	conduct alleged in the Complaint;			
12	12 (h) Declaratory r	elief, including but not limited to a declaration and judgment		
13	that Apple's conduct alleged in the Complaint violates the laws alleged in the Complaint; and			
14	(i) Such other ar	d further relief as the Court deems proper and just.		
15	15			
16	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL			
17	Pursuant to Rule 38(a) of the	Pursuant to Rule 38(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Cydia demands a jury trial		
18	as to all issues triable by a jury.			
19	19			
20	20			
21	21			
22	22			
23	23			
24	24			
25	25			
26				
27				
28	28			
	11			

- 1		
1	DATED: January 19, 2022	QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART &
2	DATED. January 19, 2022	SULLIVAN, LLP
3		
4		By /s/ Adam B. Wolfson
5		Stephen A. Swedlow (pro hac vice)
6		stephenswedlow@quinnemanuel.com David A. Nelson (pro hac vice)
7		davenelson@quinnemanuel.com Marc L. Kaplan (pro hac vice)
8		marckaplan@quinnemanuel.com 191 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2700
9		Chicago, IL 60606-1881 (312) 705-7400
10		Adam B. Wolfson (SBN 262125)
11		adamwolfson@quinnemanuel.com
12		Joseph Sarles (SBN 254750) josephsarles@quinnemanuel.com
13		865 South Figueroa Street, 10th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90017-2543
14		(213) 443-3000
15		Attorneys for Plaintiff SaurikIT, LLC
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
		51