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9	GROUP LLC					
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11	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT					
12	EASTERN DISTR	ICT OF CALIFORNIA				
13		ICI OI CIMII OMIMI				
14	OSCEOLA BLACKWOOD IVORY GAMING GROUP LLC,) Case No.				
15	Plaintiff,) COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES FOR:				
16	vs.	 1. BREACH OF CONTRACT 2. BREACH OF THE COVENANT 				
17		OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR				
18	PICAYUNE RANCHERIA OF CHUKCHANSI INDIANS and	DEALING 3. BREACH OF ORAL CONTRACT				
19	CHUKCHANSI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,) 4. BREACH OF IMPLIED CONTRACT				
20	Defendants.	5. FRAUD6. VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. &				
21	2010 Idantos.	PROF. CODE SECTION 17200, ET SEQ.				
		7. INTENTIONAL INTERFERENCE WITH PROSPECTIVE				
22) ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE				
23		8. NEGLIGENT INTERFERENCE WITH PROSPECTIVE				
24		ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE				
25) DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL				
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COMPLAINT Case No.

Plaintiff, OSCEOLA BLACKWOOD IVORY GAMING GROUP LLC ("Plaintiff" or "OBIG"), complains of Defendants PICAYUNE RANCHERIA OF CHUKCHANSI INDIANS ("Chukchansi Tribe") and CHUKCHANSI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ("CEDA") (collectively "Defendants"), and alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

- 1. The principals of Plaintiff OBIG provide management and consulting services for Native American hospitality and gaming projects. The principals of OBIG are committed to bringing opportunity and success to Native people and Native businesses through their vast experience in casino gaming and resorts and through their deep understanding of Native American culture, values, and economic realities.
- 2. In or around April 2015, Defendants Chukchansi Tribe and CEDA contacted the principals of OBIG to discuss enlisting their services to assist with the reopening of the Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino ("Casino"), including but not limited to: providing management services, identifying and training staff, getting the Casino in a position to reopen to the public, and obtaining the state and federal approvals needed to reopen and operate the Casino. At the time, the Chukchansi Tribe was facing tremendous fines, was paying significant consulting fees to other third parties, and was in default on bonds issued by the Chukchansi Tribe under that certain indenture dated May 30, 2012 with CEDA and Wells Fargo Bank as Trustee. At the time the Tribe contacted OBIG, it was estimated that the outstanding bond debt in default, including principal and accrued interest, totaled approximately \$280 million. Thus, the Chukchansi Tribe had no funding available to support and/or maintain the Casino or to commence the reopening process. The Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA reached out to the principals of OBIG because they knew that they needed professional help to reopen and manage the Casino on a long-term basis.
- 3. In or around June 2015, the principals of OBIG made a proposal to the Chukchansi Tribe and CEDA to provide the necessary management services and to assist with securing financing in the event that the Chukchansi Tribe was unsuccessful in securing other acceptable financing on its own. As part of its proposal and in exchange for providing

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assistance with securing financing, OBIG was to receive a formal management agreement for a term of seven (7) years and with payment of thirty percent (30%) of the Casino's net revenues in accordance with National Indian Gaming Commission ("NIGC") regulations.

- 4. In addition to needing to secure the appropriate financing to reopen the Casino, the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA also needed to negotiate and enter into a court-approved settlement agreement with the NIGC to lift the prior closure order on the Casino and permit Defendants to reopen the Casino. OBIG played a vital role in assisting the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA with the negotiation and execution of the settlement agreement with the NIGC, as well as obtaining the requisite court-approval to lift the prior closure order so that the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA could reopen the Casino.
- 5. In or around July 2015, OBIG also assisted the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA with successfully securing the necessary commitment from their existing Senior Lender to provide the financing for the reopening of the Casino. However, the Senior Lender required that the additional financing be conditional upon the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA satisfying several requirements from a regulatory and operational perspective. In order to show the Senior Lender that the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA could meet these requirements, the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA requested that OBIG meet with the Senior Lender. As a part of this meeting, the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA also requested that OBIG obtain the Senior Lender's approval with regard to OBIG's involvement with the reopening of the Casino and with the operation of the Casino going forward. To that end, OBIG met with the Senior Lender to be vetted and to obtain the Senior Lender's unofficial approval with regard to OBIG's involvement with the reopening and operation of the Casino. Sometime shortly thereafter, the Senior Lender indicated that it was willing to provide the necessary financing. As such, the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA requested that OBIG amend its proposal to reflect the fact that OBIG would not be arranging for outside financing for the reopening of the Casino. OBIG complied, amending its initial proposal as requested by the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA to reflect that it would only be providing management services. Under the revised proposal, OBIG was to receive a formal management agreement for a term of five (5) years and with

regulations (the "Management Agreement").

the Management Agreement was formally approved by the NIGC.

payment of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Casino's net revenues in accordance with NIGC

6. Pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 ("IGRA"), the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA were required to seek approval of the Management Agreement from the NIGC. Because the Chukchansi Tribe, CEDA, and OBIG (collectively, the "Parties") estimated that it would take approximately twelve months to obtain the NIGC's approval of the Management Agreement, and because of the Chukchansi Tribe's dire financial situation, the Parties agreed to enter into an interim Consulting Contract for Professional Services Related to the Re-Opening of the Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino (the "Consulting Agreement"), until

- 7. On or about July 8, 2015, OBIG and CEDA fully executed and entered into the Consulting Agreement, and CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe approved and authorized the Consulting Agreement by and through its adoption of Resolution No. 2015-31. On that same date, the Parties also orally agreed, and Defendants promised, that Defendants would promptly submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval as soon as the Casino was reopened. Shortly thereafter, on or about July 29, 2015, OBIG, the Chukchansi Tribe, and CEDA fully executed and entered into the Management Agreement. The very next day, on or about July 30, 2015, CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe approved and authorized the Management Agreement by and through its adoption of Resolution No. 2015-46. Thus, as of July 30, 2015, both the Consulting Agreement and the Management Agreement were fully executed and entered into by the Parties, and the Parties agreed and understood that the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA was required to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval as soon as the Casino reopened.
- 8. OBIG fulfilled all of its obligations under the interim Consulting Agreement and the proposed Management Agreement. The Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA breached the Parties' agreements, and the spirit of those agreements, by failing to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval, thus depriving OBIG of approximately twenty-one million dollars (\$21,000,000.00) in revenues that it is rightfully owed under the Management

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PARTIES

- 9. At all times relevant herein, Plaintiff OBIG is and was a limited liability corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Florida with its principal place of business in Orlando, Florida.
- 10. At all times relevant herein, Defendant Chukchansi Tribe is and was a federally recognized Indian tribe located in Coarsegold, California, as well as the surrounding towns of Oakhurst, Madera, and the Fresno-Clovis metropolitan area.
- 11. At all times relevant herein, Defendant CEDA is and was the wholly-owned unincorporated economic arm of the Chukchansi Tribe that operates the Chukchansi Tribe's gaming facility, the Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino ("Casino") with its principal place of business located at 8080 North Palm Avenue, Suite 207, Fresno, California. CEDA is composed of the members of the Tribal Council of the Chukchansi Tribe, all of whom, on information and belief, reside within this district in the State of California.

JURISDICTION

- 12. This action involves issues related to Defendants' gaming activities as regulated by IGRA and the NIGC, as well as issues related to Defendants' control over its gaming enterprises. As such, jurisdiction is appropriate pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 2701, *et seq*. This Court also has supplemental jurisdiction over all related claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 13. Pursuant to Article 8.1 of the Management Agreement, the Chukchansi Tribe specifically agreed to enact a Tribal Council resolution to provide a limited wavier of sovereign immunity, and more specifically in Article 8.1(a), the Chukchansi Tribe waived its sovereign immunity to a lawsuit filed by OBIG "for the purposes of enforcing the terms of this Agreement." Moreover, pursuant to the terms of Section 14 of the Consulting Agreement, and in keeping with the history and course of business conduct between the parties, CEDA, on its behalf and on behalf of the Chukchansi Tribe, "expressly, unequivocally and irrevocably" waived its sovereign immunity from any action filed in the United States Federal Court for the Eastern District of California with respect to the Consulting Agreement, or any of the

transactions contemplated in the Consulting Agreement.

VENUE

14. Venue is proper in the United States District Court, Eastern District of California pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because: the subject matter of this action arose in the County of Fresno, California; Defendants reside within this district; and Article 8.1(b) of the Management Agreement specifies that the Chukchansi Tribe consents to suit in this District for suits brought by OBIG for the enforcement of the Management Agreement. In addition, as part of the parties' ongoing business relationship, and as set forth in Section 14 of the Consulting Agreement, the parties agreed that any action to enforce the terms of the Consulting Agreement, or any of the transactions contemplated therein (*e.g.*, the submission of the Management Agreement to the NIGC), would be brought in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California.

FACTS

- Agreement for OBIG to provide CEDA with advice and recommendations for the reopening of the Casino as well as to provide advice and recommendations to CEDA related to commercial activities operated at the Casino, or to be developed and constructed by CEDA to improve operations at the Casino. On or about that same date, CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe approved and authorized the Consulting Agreement by and through its adoption of Resolution No. 2015-31. True and correct copies of Resolution No. 2015-31 and the Consulting Agreement are attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.
- 16. The stated purpose of the Consulting Agreement was: "to provide a legally enforceable agreement pursuant to which the Consultant [i.e., OBIG] will provide business consulting advice and services prior to the approval of the Management Agreement between CEDA and [OBIG] by the Chairman of the NIGC so that the Casino can be reopened as quickly as possible in exchange for certain fees; and to set forth the rights and obligations of the Parties if approval of the Management Agreement by the Chairman of the NIGC does not occur." In order to ensure that they were complying with IGRA, CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the

Chukchansi Tribe also entered into a separate employment agreement with Christian Goode for Goode to serve as the Chief Operating Officer of the Casino until the Management Agreement was approved by the NIGC.

- 17. Pursuant to Section 5 of the Consulting Agreement, Terms of Payment, CEDA was required to pay OBIG \$100,000.00 per month by the last day of the month for the duration of the Consulting Agreement.
- 18. Section 7, Term, of the Consulting Agreement provided, in pertinent part, as follows: "This Agreement shall remain in effect for a period beginning on the date first stated above and terminating on the earlier of either: (a) the anniversary date twenty four months thereafter; or (b) the facility becomes managed pursuant to a Management Agreement approved by the National Indian Gaming Commission...."
- 19. Sections 14 and 15, Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Choice of Law and Venue, respectively, provided that: Defendants "expressly, unequivocally and irrevocably" waive their sovereign immunity and any defenses based thereon from any legal proceeding with respect to the Consulting Agreement, or any of the transactions contemplated in the Consulting Agreement; OBIG shall have recourse to money damages; and that all disputes arising out of or relating to the Consulting Agreement, or the breach thereof, shall be brought in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California and construed in accordance with the laws of California.
- 20. On or about July 8, 2015, the same date that the Parties entered into the Consulting Agreement, the Parties also orally agreed, and Defendants promised, that Defendants would promptly submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval as soon as the Casino was reopened. As part of this oral agreement, the Parties acknowledged that OBIG was required to act to its own financial detriment by providing consulting services at a lower compensation rate and agreeing to allow Defendants to delay submitting the Management Agreement to the NIGC until the Casino reopened. The Parties expressly agreed and understood that Defendants would submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC as soon as the Casino reopened; OBIG would not have entered into the Consulting Agreement

without this express agreement and understanding.

- 21. On or about July 29, 2015, OBIG, the Chukchansi Tribe, and CEDA entered into the Management Agreement. The very next day, on or about July 30, 2015, CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe approved and authorized the Management Agreement by and through its adoption of Resolution No. 2015-46. True and correct copies of Resolution No. 2015-46 and the Management Agreement are attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**.
- 22. The Parties agreed to the terms of the Management Agreement and signed it on July 29, 2015, and CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe approved and authorized the Management Agreement by and through a formal tribal resolution on July 30, 2015. The Management Agreement required approval by the NIGC in order to comply with IGRA. Accordingly, the Management Agreement's Effective Date was to occur five (5) days following the date on which all of the following conditions were satisfied:
 - (1) the Chairman of the NIGC grants written approval of the Management Agreement, and any documents collateral to the Management Agreement identified by the NIGC as requiring such approval;
 - (2) the Chukchansi Tribe and NIGC conclude background investigations of OBIG and other appropriate persons; and
 - (3) OBIG received all applicable licenses and permits for the Casino.
- 23. Pursuant to Articles 2.2 and 4.1, respectively, the Management Agreement had a term of five (5) years and required payment to OBIG in the amount of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Casino's net gaming revenues.
- 24. Article 8.1, Sovereign Immunity, provided that the Chukchansi Tribe waived sovereign immunity to a lawsuit filed by OBIG "for the purposes of enforcing the terms of this Agreement [i.e., the Management Agreement]" and further provided that the Chukchansi Tribe consented to suit in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California. Article 8.1 also promised that the Chukchansi Tribe would enact a Tribal Council resolution with regard to the sovereign immunity waiver and consent to jurisdiction in the United States

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District Court for the Eastern District of California, amongst other things.

- 25. At some point after the Parties entered into the Management Agreement, Defendants negotiated and executed financing documents in order to obtain the financing necessary to reopen the Casino. The financing documents contemplated and permitted Defendants to enter into a management agreement with a qualified contractor, and specifically cited OBIG as a prequalified contractor for such an agreement, but also contained parameters for which a qualified management contractor could be compensated. Despite the fact that the Parties had already signed the Management Agreement and Defendants had already approved and authorized the Management Agreement by formal resolution, the financing documents proposed by the Senior Lender in December 2015 did not permit OBIG to be compensated at the level provided for in the fully executed and approved Management Agreement. For the benefit of the Chukchansi Tribe, OBIG agreed that the parties could modify the terms of the Management Agreement to coincide with the compensation level set forth in the financing documents, so long as the parties also agreed to extend the term of the agreement for a longer period of time and so long as Defendants immediately submitted the amended management agreement to the NIGC.
- 26. From July 2015 through December 2015, OBIG provided valuable services to Defendants by: assisting with obtaining local, state, and federal approvals; assisting with the identification and retention of important Casino staff; developing a reopening timeline for the Casino; developing a reopening budget to efficiently and effectively reopen the Casino when all of the requisite approvals were secured; assisting with maintaining the Casino in good condition in order to open it as expeditiously as possible; assisting with the review and finalization of a thirty-five million dollar (\$35,000,000.00) term loan to finance the Casino; assisting with managing the consent solicitation necessary to allow for the new financing; working with the Trustee and Senior Lender to provide interim funding of two million, sixhundred thousand dollars (\$2,600,000.00) while approvals were being secured; assisting with the identification and negotiation of contracts with vendors required to repair and/or replace systems, furniture, fixtures, other equipment, and other elements of the Casino property;

assisting with the identification, negotiation and development of contracts with professionals required to inspect and approve of life safety systems; consulting with the Chukchansi Tribe to ensure the proper food and beverage retail venues inside the Casino opened in a timely manner; assisting with the reopening of the hotel and spa connected with the Casino to enhance the Casino's revenue; and assisting with the development of a long term pro forma and operating budget for the Casino for 2016. Importantly, OBIG was not compensated for providing any of these valuable services until after the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA had reached a settlement agreement with the NIGC and obtained the requisite court-approval to lift the prior closure order so that the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA could reopen the Casino. Had the NIGC and the court not given approval for the Casino to reopen, and/or had the Casino not reopened, OBIG never would have been paid for any of the consulting services that it provided to Defendants. OBIG agreed to take on this financial risk to assist Defendants in reopening the Casino because of the Parties' express agreement and understanding that the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA would submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval as soon as the Casino reopened.

- 27. On December 31, 2015, a mere ten days after OBIG helped Defendants to secure the necessary approval from the NIGC to reopen and operate the Casino, the Casino officially reopened. As part of the reopening and to promote the Casino, OBIG also launched an effective media campaign, assisted with hiring over eight-hundred employees in less than seven days, and ensured the Casino was compliant with the Chukchansi Tribe's Tribal Gaming Commission and the NIGC regulations to secure the required Gaming Facility License. Without OBIG's critical consulting services and OBIG's willingness to assume the financial risk of not being paid for its services unless and until the Casino reopened, the Casino would not have reopened.
- 28. The Casino's financial performance since its reopening has been remarkably positive. In its first quarter of operations, the Casino generated over \$13 million in earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization after accounting for non-operating, one-time expenses. On an annualized basis, Defendants are projected to receive the maximum

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permitted Tribal Distribution of \$10.5 million, \$3 million in administrative funding for CEDA, tax collections of more than \$2 million, and at least \$8 million of capital reinvestment into the facility to ensure that the facility remains competitive in the marketplace. In addition, and perhaps most importantly, the Casino's success to date means that a steady stream of good paying jobs are available to Defendants' members. OBIG fulfilled its commitment to help CEDA and/or the Chukchansi Tribe to ensure the Casino was comparable, if not superior, to regional competitors, and that Defendants' members were given priority with respect to employment opportunities. In the first quarter alone, the Casino employed approximately 127 Tribal members, which is 59 more Tribal members than were employed when the facility closed in October 2014, constituting an increase of almost 100% in Tribal employment.

- 29. In or around the beginning of April 2016, OBIG met with Defendants to discuss amending the Management Agreement and submitting a revised version of the agreement to NIGC for approval because the financing documents that Defendants entered into to assist with the reopening of the Casino did not permit the compensation that was previously agreed to and promised to OBIG pursuant to the Management Agreement. Under the parameters of the financing documents, OBIG's compensation was required to be lower than originally agreed to by the parties in the Management Agreement. Despite having already acted to its own financial detriment by providing services at a lower cost to Defendants under the terms of the Consulting Agreement in order to facilitate the reopening of the Casino, OBIG and Defendants agreed to amend the Management Agreement to reflect the lower compensation rate called for by the financing documents and to extend the term of the Management Agreement from five (5) years to seven (7) years. OBIG agreed to these concessions for the benefit of the Chukchansi Tribe and based on Defendants' express promise that they would immediately submit the Management Agreement or an amended version of the Management Agreement to the NIGC.
- 30. At all times pertinent to the Consulting Agreement and the Management Agreement, Defendants were required to submit the Management Agreement or an amended version of the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval. At the outset of the Parties' negotiations, the Parties agreed that the Consulting Agreement was merely meant to be an

interim agreement designed as a placeholder until the NIGC granted formal approval of the
Management Agreement, and the Parties orally agreed, and Defendants promised, that
Defendants would promptly submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval as
soon as the Casino was reopened. As part of this oral agreement, the Parties acknowledged that
OBIG was required to act to its own financial detriment by providing services at a lower
compensation rate and agreeing to allow Defendants to delay submitting the Management
Agreement to the NIGC until the Casino reopened. Indeed, under the terms of the Consulting
Agreement, OBIG was required to expend much greater time and effort in order to assist
CEDA and/or the Chukchansi Tribe in getting the Casino ready for the reopening and fully
operational, for much less compensation than it was to receive under the terms of the
Management Agreement. To date, and to the financial detriment of OBIG, Defendants have
wholly failed to submit the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management
agreement to the NIGC for approval. This is particularly glaring in light of the fact that OBIG
agreed to modify the terms of the Management Agreement to accommodate the restrictions in
the financing documents that directly contradicted the terms already agreed to and entered into
in the Management Agreement, based on Defendants' express promise and representation that
they would immediately submit the amended management agreement to the NIGC for approval.

31. Despite Defendants' complete failure to submit the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for formal approval as required by the Parties' agreements, OBIG continued to assist Defendants with operations at the Casino under the terms of the Consulting Agreement from July 8, 2015 until August 10, 2016 to its own financial detriment.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Breach of Contract

(Against All Defendants)

- 32. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs.
 - 33. On or about July 8, 2015, OBIG and CEDA entered into the Consulting

Agreement for OBIG to provide CEDA with advice and recommendations for the reopening of the Casino and related to commercial activities operated at the Casino, or to be developed and constructed by CEDA to improve operations at the Casino. On or about that same date, CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe approved and authorized the Consulting Agreement by and through its adoption of Resolution No. 2015-31. Pursuant to Section 1, the stated purpose of the Consulting Agreement was "to provide a legally enforceable agreement pursuant to which the Consultant [i.e., OBIG] will provide business consulting advice and services prior to the approval of the Management Agreement between CEDA and [OBIG] by the Chairman of the NIGC so that the Casino can be reopened as quickly as possible in exchange for certain fees" and "to be a legally enforceable agreement, independent of the Management Agreement." Pursuant to Section 5, CEDA was required to pay OBIG \$100,000.00 per month by the last day of the month for the duration of the Consulting Agreement.

- 34. On or about July 29, 2015, OBIG, the Chukchansi Tribe, and CEDA entered into the Management Agreement. The very next day, on or about July 30, 2015, CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe approved and authorized the Management Contract by and through its adoption of Resolution No. 2015-46. Pursuant to Article 7.6, Further Actions, the Chukchansi Tribe and/or CEDA agreed "to execute all contracts, agreements and documents and to take all other actions necessary or appropriate to comply with the provisions of this Agreement and the intent thereof." Pursuant to Articles 2.2 and 4.1, respectively, the Management Agreement had a term of five (5) years and required payment to OBIG in the amount of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Casino's net gaming revenues.
- 35. The Casino reopened on December 31, 2015. At all times relevant to this Complaint and once it was signed and adopted by CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe, the Management Agreement was valid, enforceable, and in effect.
- 36. OBIG duly performed all material conditions, terms, promises, and obligations required on its part under the Consulting Agreement and the Management Agreement.
 - 37. At all times relevant to this Complaint, the Parties agreed and understood that the

Consulting Agreement was an interim agreement until the NIGC granted formal approval of the Management Agreement, and that Defendants were to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval once it was signed and authorized by the Parties and the Casino reopened. The Parties understood that in order to comply with IGRA, OBIG would be compensated less for more work under the terms of the Consulting Agreement, but that OBIG would receive a well-earned increase in compensation once the Management Agreement was formally approved.

- 38. Defendants breached the Management Agreement by, among other things: failing to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for formal approval, and failing to fairly and adequately compensate OBIG for the valuable services that it provided to Defendants in assisting with the reopening of the Casino and with the ongoing operations of the Casino.
- 39. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of the Management Agreement, OBIG has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, and which is expected to exceed the jurisdictional minimum for this Court. Indeed, OBIG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that it has lost approximately \$21,000,000.00 that it otherwise would have been paid under the terms of the Management Agreement had Defendants properly submitted the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Breach of the Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing (Against All Defendants)

- 40. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs.
- 41. At all times mentioned herein, Defendants have blatantly ignored their obligations under the Management Agreement to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for formal approval.
- 42. At all times relevant to this Complaint, an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing existed in the Management Agreement, such that Defendants promised they would deal with OBIG fairly and honestly and would not do anything to deprive OBIG of the benefits of

the Management Agreement. The covenant of good faith and fair dealing imposed not only a duty to refrain from doing any act that would render performance under the Management Agreement impossible, but also the duty to do everything that the Management Agreement presupposed that the parties would do in order to accomplish the purpose of the Management Agreement. Defendants failed to exercise good faith and fair dealing with OBIG as more particularly set forth below.

- 43. OBIG entered into the Consulting Agreement with the understanding that as soon as the Casino reopened, Defendants would immediately submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for formal approval. OBIG also entered into the Consulting Agreement with the understanding that it was only meant to be an interim contract to permit Defendants to enlist OBIG for its services to assist Defendants in reopening the Casino and making it fully operational again, while the Parties waited for the Management Agreement to be approved by the NIGC. The Parties understood that in order to comply with IGRA, OBIG would be compensated less for more work under the terms of the Consulting Agreement, but that OBIG would receive a well-earned increase in compensation once the Management Agreement was formally approved.
- 44. Although the Parties approved and signed the Management Agreement on July 29, 2015, and CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe approved and authorized the Management Contract by and through its adoption of Resolution No. 2015-46 on July 30, 2015, Defendants inexplicably failed to honor their contractual obligations to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for formal approval. Despite OBIG's repeated inquiries about the status of the Management Agreement and its demands that Defendants submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC, Defendants failed to do so. Defendants' conduct was and is unfair and dishonest, and their failure to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for formal approval and their execution of financing documents that directly conflicted with the terms of the Management Agreement is a breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.
 - 45. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendants acted in a deliberate,

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fraudulent, malicious, oppressive, and intentional manner to damage OBIG. Throughout the Parties' contractual relationship, Defendants fraudulently induced OBIG to perform a great deal of work for the promise of a longer term and more lucrative contract, all while Defendants did not intend to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval in order to avoid paying OBIG higher rates for the valuable services it provided to Defendants. Defendants' intentional, false, and fraudulent conduct entitles OBIG to punitive damages against Defendants in an amount within the jurisdiction of this Court.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Breach of Oral Contract

(Against All Defendants)

- 46. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs.
- 47. On or about July 8, 2015, OBIG and CEDA entered into the Consulting Agreement for OBIG to provide CEDA with advice and recommendations for the reopening of the Casino and related to commercial activities operated at the Casino, or to be developed and constructed by CEDA to improve operations at the Casino. On or about that same date, the parties also orally agreed, and Defendants promised, that Defendants would promptly submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval as soon as the Casino was reopened. As part of this oral agreement, the Parties acknowledged that OBIG was required to act to its own financial detriment by providing services at a lower compensation rate and agreeing to allow Defendants to delay submitting the Management Agreement to the NIGC until the Casino reopened. Indeed, pursuant to Section 1 of the Consulting Agreement, the stated purpose of the Consulting Agreement was "to provide a legally enforceable agreement pursuant to which the Consultant [i.e., OBIG] will provide business consulting advice and services prior to the approval of the Management Agreement between CEDA and [OBIG] by the Chairman of the NIGC so that the Casino can be reopened as quickly as possible in exchange for certain fees." At all times relevant to this Complaint, the Parties' oral agreement that Defendants would promptly submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC as soon as the Casino was reopened

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was valid, enforceable, and in effect.

- 48. At all times relevant to this Complaint, OBIG duly performed all material conditions, terms, promises, and obligations required on its part pursuant to the Parties' oral agreement.
- 49. Defendants breached the Parties' oral agreement by, among other things: failing to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for formal approval as soon as the Casino reopened and failing to fairly and adequately compensate OBIG for the valuable services that it provided to Defendants in assisting with the reopening of the Casino and with the ongoing operations of the Casino.
- 50. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of the Parties' oral agreement, OBIG has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, and which is expected to exceed the jurisdictional minimum for this Court. Indeed, OBIG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that it has lost approximately \$21,000,000.00 that it otherwise would have been paid under the terms of the Management Agreement had Defendants properly submitted the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Breach of Implied Contract

(Against All Defendants)

- 51. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs.
- 52. On or about July 8, 2015, OBIG and CEDA entered into the Consulting Agreement for OBIG to provide CEDA with advice and recommendations for the reopening of the Casino and related to commercial activities operated at the Casino, or to be developed and constructed by CEDA to improve operations at the Casino. On or about that same date, the Parties also orally agreed, and Defendants promised, that Defendants would promptly submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval as soon as the Casino was reopened. As part of this oral agreement, the Parties acknowledged that OBIG was required to act to its own financial detriment by providing services at a lower compensation rate and agreeing to allow

Defendants to delay submitting the Management Agreement to the NIGC until the Casino reopened. Indeed, pursuant to Section 1 of the Consulting Agreement, the stated purpose of the Consulting Agreement was "to provide a legally enforceable agreement pursuant to which the Consultant [i.e., OBIG] will provide business consulting advice and services prior to the approval of the Management Agreement between CEDA and [OBIG] by the Chairman of the NIGC so that the Casino can be reopened as quickly as possible in exchange for certain fees." At all times relevant to this Complaint, OBIG understood that Defendants would promptly submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC as soon as the Casino was reopened and further understood that Defendants would enter into and execute financing documents that comported with the terms of the Management Agreement. Accordingly, OBIG tirelessly provided valuable services to Defendants to assist them in reopening the Casino, and successfully reopened the Casino with Defendants on December 31, 2015.

- 53. The conduct between OBIG and Defendants and all of the surrounding circumstances and the Parties' actions created an implied contract.
- 54. Defendants intended to enter into the implied contract with OBIG for OBIG to provide valuable services to assist with the reopening of the Casino at a lower compensation rate under the Consulting Agreement in exchange for OBIG waiting to receive higher and more commensurate compensation under the terms of the Management Agreement once the Casino reopened, as Defendants were required to immediately submit the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for formal approval once the Casino was reopened. As part of this agreement, Defendants knew, or had reason to know, that OBIG would infer from Defendants' conduct that they intended to enter into a contract with OBIG.
- 55. At all times relevant to this Complaint, OBIG duly performed all material conditions, terms, promises, and obligations required on its part pursuant to the Parties' implied contract.
- 56. Defendants breached the Parties' implied contract by, among other things: failing to submit the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the

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NIGC for formal approval as soon as the Casino reopened and failing to fairly and adequately compensate OBIG for the valuable services that it provided to Defendants in assisting with the reopening of the Casino and with the ongoing operations of the Casino.

57. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of the Parties' implied contract, OBIG has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, and which is expected to exceed the jurisdictional minimum for this Court. Indeed, OBIG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that it has lost approximately \$21,000,000.00 that it otherwise would have been paid under the terms of the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management Agreement had Defendants properly submitted the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for approval.

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Fraud

(Against All Defendants)

- 58. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs.
- 59. In or around July 2015, Defendants misrepresented to OBIG the material fact that if the Parties entered into the Consulting Agreement and if OBIG assisted Defendants in reopening the Casino and continued to assist with its ongoing operations, Defendants would immediately submit the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for formal approval once it was approved, signed, and authorized by the Parties and the Casino was reopened.
- 60. OBIG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants knew these representations were false. OBIG is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Defendants intended to induce OBIG's reliance on these representations. In fact, OBIG did justifiably rely on these representations and, as a result, expended great time and effort to assist Defendants with reopening the Casino and continuing to operate the Casino, with the understanding that in order to comply with IGRA, OBIG would be compensated less for more work under the terms of the Consulting Agreement, but that OBIG would receive a well-earned

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increase in compensation once the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management agreement was formally approved by the NIGC. As a result of OBIG's reliance on Defendants' false representations, OBIG has been damaged in that it has been paid far less under the terms of the Consulting Agreement than it would be paid if the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management agreement were in effect.

- 61. At some point after Defendants entered into the Management Agreement, Defendants negotiated and executed financing documents that contradicted the compensation terms set forth in the Management Agreement. The financing documents contemplated and permitted Defendants to enter into a management agreement with a qualified contractor, and specifically cited OBIG as a prequalified contractor for such an agreement, but also contained parameters for which a qualified management contractor could be compensated. Despite the fact that the Parties had already signed the Management Agreement and Defendants had already approved and authorized the Management Agreement by formal resolution, the financing documents offered by the Senior Lender and entered into by Defendants did not permit OBIG to be compensated at the level provided for in the fully executed and approved Management Agreement. For the benefit of the Chukchansi Tribe, OBIG agreed that the Parties could modify the terms of the Management Agreement to coincide with the compensation level set forth in the financing documents, so long as the Parties also agreed to extend the term of the agreement for a longer period of time and so long as Defendants immediately submitted the revised management agreement to the NIGC.
- 62. At some point after the Casino was reopened, but before mid-April 2016, OBIG discovered that Defendants had not submitted the Management Agreement to the NIGC for formal approval, and did not intend to do so. In or around the beginning of April, OBIG met with Defendants to discuss the Parties' agreement to amend the Management Agreement and submit a revised version of the agreement to the NIGC for approval that met the parameters for a management agreement set forth in the financing documents. Under the parameters of the financing documents, OBIG's compensation was required to be lower than originally agreed to by the Parties in the Management Agreement. Despite having already acted to its own financial

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detriment by providing services at a lower cost to Defendants under the terms of the Consulting Agreement in order to facilitate the reopening of the Casino, OBIG and Defendants again agreed to amend the Management Agreement to reflect the lower compensation called for by the financing documents and to extend the term of the Management Agreement from five (5) years to seven (7) years. The Parties' agreement also required Defendants to immediately submit the revised management agreement to the NIGC for approval.

- 63. In or around May 2016, OBIG discovered that Defendants did not intend to formally enter into and submit the terms of the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for formal approval.
- 64. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' fraudulent misrepresentations, OBIG has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, and which is expected to exceed the jurisdictional minimum for this Court. Indeed, OBIG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that it has lost approximately \$21,000,000.00 that it otherwise would have been paid under the terms of the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement, had Defendants entered into financing documents that accurately reflected the compensation terms of the Management Agreement, and properly submitted the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for approval. In addition, OBIG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendants made the abovementioned misrepresentations willfully, fraudulently, and with malice and/or oppression. Thus, OBIG seeks punitive and exemplary damages in an amount sufficient to deter Defendants from engaging in such conduct in the future.

SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Violation of California Business & Professions Code Section 17200, et seq. (Against All Defendants)

- 65. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs.
- 66. On or around July 8, 2015, the Parties entered into the Consulting Agreement with the understanding that as soon as the Casino reopened, Defendants would immediately

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submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for formal approval, and that the Consulting Agreement was only meant to be an interim contract to permit Defendants to enlist OBIG for its services to assist Defendants in reopening the Casino and making it fully operational again, while the Parties waited for the Management Agreement to be approved by the NIGC. The Parties also agreed and understood that in order to comply with IGRA, OBIG would be compensated less for more work under the terms of the Consulting Agreement, but that OBIG would receive a well-earned increase in compensation once the Management Agreement was formally approved.

- 67. On or around July 29 and 30, 2015, the Parties signed, authorized, and approved the Management Agreement, and CEDA and/or the Tribal Council for the Chukchansi Tribe adopted a resolution to approve and authorize the Management Agreement. Pursuant to the Parties' negotiations, and the terms and spirit of the Consulting Agreement and the Management Agreement, Defendants were required to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for formal approval as soon as the Casino reopened. However, Defendants failed to do so. Defendants also executed financing documents that directly contradicted the compensation terms set forth in the Management Agreement, and although Defendants further promised OBIG that they would enter into an amended management agreement to coincide with the terms set forth in the financing documents and immediately submit the amended management agreement to the NIGC, Defendants failed and refused to do so.
- 68. Defendants' failure to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC, as well as Defendants' failure to execute the agreed to amended management agreement and immediately submit it to the NIGC, are unfair and fraudulent business practices within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code Section 17200, *et seq*. Defendants' failure to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC and further failure to execute the agreed to amended management agreement and immediately submit it to the NIGC were designed to prevent Defendants from having to pay OBIG the well-deserved increase in compensation that is called for under the terms of the Management Agreement.

 As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' unfair and fraudulent misconduct, OBIG has

been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, and which is expected to exceed the jurisdictional minimum for this Court. Indeed, OBIG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that it has lost approximately \$21,000,000.00 that it otherwise would have been paid under the terms of the Management Agreement had Defendants properly submitted the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval, and that Defendants have retained these sums for their own financial benefit. Accordingly, OBIG seeks restitution and disgorgement of profits related to the sums that are properly owed to OBIG under the terms of the Management Agreement.

SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Intentional Interference with Prospective Economic Advantage (Against All Defendants)

- 69. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs.
- 70. Defendants are and have been aware of both the existing and prospective business relationship that OBIG has with Defendants under the terms of the Management Agreement. Defendants know and have known that OBIG was required to expend a great deal of time and effort in order to get the Casino ready for the reopening and fully operational, for much less compensation, under the terms of the Consulting Agreement than it was to receive under the Management Agreement. Defendants are also aware and have been aware that the Management Agreement must be submitted to the NIGC for formal approval in order to comply with IGRA, and that Defendants were required to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC to obtain formal approval. Defendants are further aware that they agreed to and executed financing documents that directly contradicted the compensation terms set forth in the Management Agreement, and as a result, that they further promised OBIG that they would enter into an amended management agreement to coincide with the terms set forth in the financing documents and immediately submit the amended management agreement to the NIGC.
- 71. Pursuant to the Parties' negotiations, the terms of the Consulting Agreement, the Management Agreement, and the Parties' oral agreements, and the spirit of those agreements,

Defendants knew and have known that they were required to immediately submit the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for approval as soon as the Parties had signed, authorized and/or otherwise approved of the Management Agreement and the Casino reopened. Defendants also knew and have known that as of July 30, 2015, the Parties had fully signed, authorized, and approved of the Management Agreement. Defendants further knew and have known that OBIG would receive a well-earned increase in compensation for its services under the terms of the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement, and that in order for OBIG to receive that increase in compensation, Defendants needed to submit the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for formal approval.

- 72. To date, Defendants have failed to submit the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC in order to obtain formal approval of the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement. In addition, Defendants have not executed and have refused to formally enter into the proposed amended management agreement to coincide with the terms set forth in the financing documents, and have further failed and refused to submit the terms of the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC. As result of these failures, OBIG has lost approximately \$21,000,000.00 that it otherwise would have been paid under the terms of the Management Agreement had Defendants properly submitted the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval.
- 73. On information and belief, Defendants knowingly and intentionally acted to prevent OBIG from receiving the prospective economic advantage of the Management Agreement.
- 74. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' interference, OBIG has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, and which is expected to exceed the jurisdictional minimum for this Court. Indeed, OBIG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that it has lost approximately \$21,000,000.00 that it otherwise would have been paid under the terms of the Management Agreement had Defendants properly submitted the Management Agreement

to the NIGC for approval.

EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Negligent Interference with Prospective Economic Advantage

(Against All Defendants)

- 75. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs.
- 76. Defendants are and have been aware of both the existing and prospective business relationship that OBIG has with Defendants under the terms of the Management Agreement. Defendants know and have known that OBIG was required to expend a great deal of time and effort in order to get the Casino ready for the reopening and fully operational, for much less compensation, under the terms of the Consulting Agreement than it was to receive under the Management Agreement. Defendants are also aware and have been aware that the Management Agreement must be submitted to the NIGC for formal approval in order to comply with IGRA, and that Defendants were required to submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC to obtain formal approval.
- Pursuant to the Parties' negotiations, the terms of the Consulting Agreement, the Management Agreement, and the Parties' oral agreements, and the spirit of those agreements, Defendants knew and have known that they were required to immediately submit the Management Agreement to the NIGC for approval as soon as the Parties had signed, authorized and/or otherwise approved of the Management Agreement and the Casino reopened.

 Defendants also knew and have known that as of July 30, 2015, the Parties had fully signed, authorized, and approved of the Management Agreement. Defendants further knew and have known that OBIG would receive a well-earned increase in compensation for its services under the terms of the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement, and that in order for OBIG to receive that increase in compensation, Defendants needed to submit the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for formal approval.
 - 78. As OBIG's business partner with respect to the Consulting Agreement and the

Management Agreement, Defendants owed OBIG a duty of care in performing their contractual obligations and submitting the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for approval. Defendants knew that without submitting the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC, the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement would not comply with IGRA and Defendants could argue that neither formally went into effect, to OBIG's financial detriment. Defendants also knew that by executing financing documents that directly contradicted the compensation terms set forth in the Management Agreement, the Management Agreement would not be approved by the NIGC, and therefore, Defendants could argue that it did not go into effect, to OBIG's financial detriment.

- 79. To date, Defendants have failed to submit the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC in order to obtain formal approval of the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement and to make the agreement effective and compliant with IGRA. Defendants have also failed and continue to fail to amend the Management Agreement to reflect the terms agreed to by the Parties, including the longer, seven (7) year term and the lower compensation rate that comports with the financing documents. As result of these failures, OBIG has lost approximately \$21,000,000.00 that it otherwise would have been paid under the terms of the Management Agreement had Defendants properly submitted the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for approval.
- 80. On information and belief, Defendants breached the duty of care owed to OBIG, and unreasonably acted to prevent OBIG from receiving the prospective economic advantage of the Management Agreement or the proposed amended management agreement.
- As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' interference, OBIG has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, and which is expected to exceed the jurisdictional minimum for this Court. Indeed, OBIG is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that it has lost approximately \$21,000,000.00 that it otherwise would have been paid under the terms of the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management Agreement had

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Defendants properly submitted the Management Agreement and/or the proposed amended management agreement to the NIGC for approval.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests the following relief against each and every Defendant:

- 1. For an award of compensatory damages;
- 2. For an award of restitutionary damages and/or disgorgement of profits related to the sums that Defendants should have paid to Plaintiff under the terms of the Management Agreement;
- 3. For an award of punitive damages in an amount sufficient to punish Defendants for their intentional and willful wrongful conduct;
 - 4. For attorney fees, prejudgment interest, and costs;
- 5. For judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendants on all causes of action; and
 - 6. Such other and further relief as the Court may find just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff Osceola Blackwood Ivory Gaming Group LLC hereby demands a jury trial.

DATED: March 16, 2017

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

Eileen R. Ridley Kimberly A. Klinsport

/s/ Eileen R. Ridley

Eileen R. Ridley Attorneys for Plaintiff OSCEOLA BLACKWOOD IVORY GAMING GROUP LLC

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US 44 (Rev. 08/16)

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The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the

purpose of initiating the civil d	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTI	'ONS ON NEXT PAGE OF T	HIS FORM.)							
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS DEFENDANTS										
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Osceola Blackwood Ivor	y Gaming Group LLC		Picayune Rancheria of Chuckchansi Indians ("Picayune") and							
			Chuckchansi Economic Development Authority							
			-	•						
(b) County of Residence o	f First Listed Plaintiff Or	range County, Florid	la County of Residence	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Madera County, California						
•	CEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	<u> </u>								
(E2	CELLIN U.S. LEMVITT CA	JEJ)	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)							
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(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address and Talanhone Number	.)	Attorneys (If Known)							
Eileen R. Ridley, Foley & Lard			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •							
555 California St., Ste. 1700		Klinsport, Foley & Lardr r St., Ste. 3500	ier LLP							
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San Francisco, CA 94104-1520 415.434.4484 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2411 213.972.4500										
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff										
			(For Diversity Cases Only)		and One Box for Defendant)					
1 U.S. Government	3 Federal Question		PT	F DEF	PTF DEF					
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government N	lot a Party)	Citizen of This State	1 Incorporated or Prin						
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2 U.S. Government	4 Diversity		Citizen of A. d. Citizen]	ain ain al Diagram					
		o of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporated and Pr of Business In A						
Defendant	(Inaicate Citizenshi)	og rarues in item III)	Citizen or Subject of a		another State					
			Foreign Country	- Toleigh Nation						
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Or	nly)		Click here for: Nature of Suit	t Code Descriptions.					
CONTRACT	TOI	RTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES					
110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY	625 Drug Related Seizure	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	375 False Claims Act					
120 Marine	310 Airplane	365 Personal Injury -	of Property 21 USC 881	422 Appeal 28 USC 138 423 Withdrawal	376 Qui Tam (31 USC					
130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product	Product Liability	690 Other	28 USC 157	370 Qui Talli (31 USC 3729(a))					
140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability	367 Health Care/	oso other	28 USC 137	400 State Reapportionment					
	320 Assault, Libel &	Pharmaceutical		PROPERTY RIGHTS	410 Antitrust					
150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	Slander	Personal Injury		820 Copyrights	430 Banks and Banking					
151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers'	Product Liability		830 Patent	I m					
152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability	368 Asbestos Personal		840 Trademark	450 Commerce					
Student Loans	340 Marine	Injury Product			460 Deportation					
(Excludes Veterans)	345 Marine Product	Liability	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	470 Racketeer Influenced and					
153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability	PERSONAL PROPERTY	710 Fair Labor Standards	861 HIA (1395ff)	Corrupt Organizations					
of Veteran's Benefits	350 Motor Vehicle	370 Other Fraud	Act	862 Black Lung (923)	480 Consumer Credit					
160 Stockholders' Suits	355 Motor Vehicle	371 Truth in Lending	720 Labor/Management	863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	490 Cable/Sat TV					
190 Other Contract	Product Liability	380 Other Personal	Relations	864 SSID Title XVI	850 Securities/Commodities/					
195 Contract Product Liability	360 Other Personal Injury	Property Damage	740 Railway Labor Act	865 RSI (405(g))	Exchange					
196 Franchise	362 Personal Injury -	385 Property Damage	751 Family and Medical	803 KSI (403(g))	890 Other Statutory Actions					
	Medical Malpractice	Product Liability	Leave Act	1	891 Agricultural Acts					
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS	790 Other Labor Litigation	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	893 Environmental Matters					
210 Land Condemnation	440 Other Civil Rights	Habeas Corpus:		870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	895 Freedom of Information					
220 Foreclosure	_	463 Alien Detainee	Income Security Act	or Defendant)	Act					
	441 Voting	510 Motions to Vacate		871 IRS—Third Party	896 Arbitration					
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	442 Employment	Sentence		26 USC 7609	899 Administrative Procedure					
240 Torts to Land	443 Housing/		•		Act/Review or Appeal of					
245 Tort Product Liability	Accommodations	530 General		,						
—	Accommodations	530 General 535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION		Agency Decision					
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V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" is 1 Original 2 Reproceeding Sta VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	445 Amer. w/Disabilities- Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities- Other 448 Education 448 Education a One Box Only) moved from	535 Death Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Othe 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement Remanded from Appellate Court tute under which you are 1, et seq.; 28 U.S.C. use: Complaint for dama olied contract, fraud, violand negligent interference IS A CLASS ACTION 6, F.R.Cv.P.	465 Other Immigration 467 Other Immigration 468 Other Immigration 469 Other Immigration 460 Other Immigration 461 Other Immigration 462 Other Immigration 463 Other Immigration 465 Other Immigration	rred from	Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes B Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File and fair dealing, breach of oral erference with prospective if demanded in complaint:					

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INSTRUCTIONS/RORSAFDORNBAIS COMPLERING CIVITE COVER/SHEPRIFORMIJS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

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

- **I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
 United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
 United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
 Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
 - Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
- **III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- **IV.** Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
 - Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407

Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statue.

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

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

 Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

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

