1	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California		
2	Attorney General of California HARINDER KAPUR		
3	Senior Assistant Attorney General JOSHUA B. EISENBERG		
4	Supervising Deputy Attorney General MICHAEL J. YUN (SBN 292587)		
5	ETHAN A. TURNER (SBN 294891) Deputy Attorneys General		
6	600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101		
7	Telephone: (310) 987-7170 Facsimile (619) 645-2061		FROM FILING FEES DE, § 6103
8	Attorneys for Plaintiff and Petitioner Department of Cannabis Control	G0 V. C0	DL, § 0103
9	SUPERIOR COURT OF TH	IE STATE OI	F CALIFORNIA
10	COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES		
11	NORTH VALLEY DISTRICT –	CHATSWOR	RTH COURTHOUSE
12			
13]	
14	DEPARTMENT OF CANNABIS CONTROL,	Case No. 200	
15	Plaintiff,	ATTORNEY	TION OF DEPUTY GENERAL ETHAN
16	V.	COMPEL R	SUPPORT OF MOTION TO ESPONSES TO REQUEST
17	VERTICAL BLISS, INC., KUSHY		UCTION, SET ONE, AS TO T MIKE A. TOROYAN
18	PUNCH, INC., CONGLOMERATE	Date:	June 10, 2022
19	MARKETING, LLC, MORE AGENCY, INC., RUBEN KACHIAN	Time: Dept:	08:30 A.M. F49
20			
	aka RUBEN CROSS, ARUTYUN	Judge:	The Honorable Stephen P. Pfahler
21	aka RUBEN CROSS, ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, KEVIN HALLORAN, MIKE A. TOROYAN, and DOES 1	Judge:	Pfahler
21	aka RUBEN CROSS, ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, KEVIN HALLORAN, MIKE A. TOROYAN, and DOES 1 through 30, inclusive,	Judge: Trial Date:	
22	aka RUBEN CROSS, ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, KEVIN HALLORAN, MIKE A. TOROYAN, and DOES 1	Judge: Trial Date: Action Filed	Pfahler January 30, 2023
22 23	aka RUBEN CROSS, ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, KEVIN HALLORAN, MIKE A. TOROYAN, and DOES 1 through 30, inclusive,	Judge: Trial Date: Action Filed	Pfahler January 30, 2023 : September 23, 2020
22 23 24	aka RUBEN CROSS, ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, KEVIN HALLORAN, MIKE A. TOROYAN, and DOES 1 through 30, inclusive,	Judge: Trial Date: Action Filed	Pfahler January 30, 2023 : September 23, 2020
22232425	aka RUBEN CROSS, ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, KEVIN HALLORAN, MIKE A. TOROYAN, and DOES 1 through 30, inclusive,	Judge: Trial Date: Action Filed	Pfahler January 30, 2023 : September 23, 2020
2223242526	aka RUBEN CROSS, ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, KEVIN HALLORAN, MIKE A. TOROYAN, and DOES 1 through 30, inclusive,	Judge: Trial Date: Action Filed	Pfahler January 30, 2023 : September 23, 2020
22232425	aka RUBEN CROSS, ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, KEVIN HALLORAN, MIKE A. TOROYAN, and DOES 1 through 30, inclusive,	Judge: Trial Date: Action Filed	Pfahler January 30, 2023 : September 23, 2020

- 1. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law before the Courts of the State of California. I am a Deputy Attorney General assigned to represent Plaintiff Department of Cannabis Control (hereinafter, "Plaintiff") in the above entitled matter. I have personal knowledge of the information set forth herein below, all of which is true and correct of my own personal knowledge and belief that the following evidence, declarations, exhibits, and writings are true and correct. If called as a witness in this proceeding, I could truthfully testify to the following:
- 2. On January 31, 2022, Plaintiff propounded Request for Production of Documents, Set One (hereinafter, "Request for Production"), on Defendant Mike A. Toroyan (hereinafter, "Defendant") through Defendant's attorney of record, Margarita Salazar (hereinafter, "Salazar"); the Request for Production was served on Salazar via first class U.S. mail and a courtesy copy was sent to Salazar via email, that same day. True and correct copies of the Request for Production and email are attached hereto as Exhibits 1 and 2, respectively.
- 3. On January 31, 2022, Salazar replied to confirm receipt of my email which contained the Request for Production. In reply, Salazar wrote, "I will produce documents tomorrow." A true and correct copy of the email exchange is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.
- 4. On March 8, 2022, having received no response to the Request for Production, I sent an email to Salazar in which I (1) reminded Salazar that we served her and Defendant "with requests for production on January 31, 2022 [...] with proofs of service [...] by regular mail with courtesy copies sent via email," (2) reminded Salazar that the deadline for Defendant's responses was "March 7, 2022," (3) reminded Salazar that Plaintiff's counsel had stipulated to electronic service, (4) offered to send a file exchange link "if documents are excessive in size or number," (5) communicated to Salazar that the email correspondence constituted Plaintiff's "effort to meet and confer on the topic of [Salazar's and Defendant's] failure to respond to the discovery requests, (6) told Salazar that I "would appreciate a response . . . confirming that no responses have been sent [to us]," and (7) notified Salazar that Plaintiff would "make another motion to

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8. Plaintiff has requested that the Court award \$2,750.00 in monetary sanction as to Defendant and Salazar. The request is based on the number of hours worked by myself, cocounsel, and a supervisor as a direct consequence of Defendant's continuing failure to engage in the discovery process.

- 9. Three California Attorney General's Office staff members have participated in the attempt to resolve this particular discovery matter by engaging in legal tasks including, but not limited to, preparing the Motion to Compel and other accompanying documents in support of the motion: Supervising Deputy Attorney General Joshua Eisenberg, Deputy Attorney General Michael Yun, and me.
 - a. Supervising Deputy Attorney General Joshua Eisenberg's hourly billing rate is \$220. SDAG Eisenberg undertook 1.5 hours of work as a direct consequence of Defendant and Salazar's failure to respond to the Request for Production and his total billing for such work amounts to \$330.00.
 - b. Deputy Attorney General Michael Yun's hourly billing rate is \$220. DAG Yun undertook 6.5 hours of work as a direct consequence of Defendant and Salazar's failure to respond to the Request for Production. The cost of Mr. Yun's work to the client amounted to \$1,430.00.
 - c. My hourly billing rate is \$220. I undertook 1.5 hours of work as a direct consequence of Defendant and Salazar's failure to respond to the Request for Production. The cost of my work to the client amounted to \$330.00.
 - d. Collectively, as of the date of this filing, \$2,090.00 in legal service fees were incurred in addressing and preparing the motion in response to Defendant and Salazar's failure to respond to the Request for Production.
 - e. Additionally, DAG Yun intends to appear remotely at the hearing reserved for June 10, 2022, and anticipates spending an additional three hours of billable hours to review any opposition, prepare for the hearing, and appear at the hearing. This estimated additional time will probably be less than that

Exhibit 1

1	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California			
2	HARINDER KAPUR Senior Assistant Attorney General			
3	ETHAN A. TURNER Deputy Attorney General	L		
4	State Bar No. 294891 MICHAEL YUN			
5	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 292587			
6	1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255			
7	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 210-7898			
8	E-mail: Ethan.Turner@doj.ca.go E-mail: Michael.Yun@doj.ca.go			
9	Attorneys for Plaintiff California Department of Cannabis Control			
10				
11			E STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
12	COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES			
13	NORTH VALLEY	DISTRICT - (CHATSWORTH COURTHOUSE	
14				
15	CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT	OF	Case No. 20CHCV00560	
16	CANNABIS CONTROL,	-4	PLAINTIFF CALIFORNIA	
17		Plaintiffs,	DEPARTMENT OF CANNABIS CONTROL'S REQUEST FOR	ng mo
18	V.		PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENT DEFENDANT MIKE A. TOROY	
19	VERTICAL BLISS, INC., KUS		ONE	
20	PUNCH, INC., CONGLOMERA MARKETING, LLC, MORE A	GENCY,	Dept: F49	
21	INC., RUBEN KACHIAN aka F CROSS, ARUTYUN BARSAM	YAN,	Judge: Hon. Stephen P. Pfahle	er
22	KEVIN HALLORAN, MIKE A. TOROYAN, and DOES 1 throu		Trial Date: June 13, 2022 Action Filed: September 23, 2020	
23 24	inclusive,	Defendants.	25, 2020	
25		Detendants.		
26	PROPOUNDED BY: CAI	LIFORNIA DE	PARTMENT OF CANNABIS CON	TROL
27	RESPONSES BY: MIK	KE A. TOROY	AN.	
28	SET: ONI	Е		
2 5				l

Plaintiff California Department of Cannabis Control requests that Mike A. Toroyon produce copies of or permit inspection and copying of the documents described below, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 2031.010, et seq.

DEFINITIONS

- 1. "YOU" and "YOUR" means Mike A. Toroyon and his employees, and any agents, employees, and representatives, alter egos, entities, and any PERSONS acting on his behalf or at his direction.
- 2. "DOCUMENT" or "DOCUMENTS" refers to any written, typewritten, printed, recorded, or other photographic materials whatsoever, however produced or reproduced, including, without limitation, drafts, notes, diaries, journals, calendars, memos, messages, letters, telegrams, proposals, agreements, contracts, minutes, papers, books, statements, summaries, writings, reports, presentations, graphs, charges, bills, records, assignments, working sheets, drawings, diagrams, slides, photographs, posters, maps, plat maps, computer printouts, checks, receipts, accounts, ledgers, expense reports, time charts, tapes, transcripts, recordings, and all other tangible things and all other things which come within the definition of "writing" contained in Evidence Code section 250, if the DOCUMENTS have been prepared in several copies, or additional copies have been made that are not identical (or are no longer identical by reason of subsequent addition or notation or other modification of the copy), each non-identical copy is a separate DOCUMENT.
- 3. "PERSON" or "PERSONS" means all natural persons, business enterprises, banks, savings and loans, financial institutions, entity, CORPORATION, partnership, proprietorship, associations, organizations, trusts, consultants, attorneys at law, joint venture, other form of legal business entities, and/or government or government agency of any nature of type
- 4. "UNLICENSED PREMISES" refers to 8415 Canoga Avenue and 8427 Canoga Avenue, Canoga Park, CA 91304 and any and all building(s), business(es), facility(ies), and/or storage area(s) located at those addresses at the relevant time period.
- 5. "LICENSED PREMISES" refers to 20500 Nordoff St. Chatsworth, CA 91311-6113 and any and all building(s), business(es), facility(ies), and/or storage area(s) located at this

address at the relevant time period.

- 6. "CANNABIS" means all parts of the plant Cannabis sativa Linnaeus, Cannabis indica, or Cannabis ruderalis, whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin, whether crude or purified, extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or resin. "Cannabis" also means the separated resin, whether crude or purified, obtained from cannabis. "Cannabis" does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted therefrom), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination. For the purpose of this division, "cannabis" does not mean "industrial hemp" as defined by Section 11018.5 of the Health and Safety Code, as identified in Business and Professions Code section 26001, subdivision (e).
- 7. "CANNABIS PRODUCT(S)" refers to CANNABIS that has undergone a process whereby the plant material has been transformed into a concentrate, including, but not limited to, concentrated cannabis, or an edible or topical product containing cannabis or concentrated cannabis or other ingredients, as identified in Business and Professions Code section 26001, subdivision (h), Health and Safety Code, section 11018.1, and Cal. Code Regs., tit. 4, section 15000, subdivision (j).
- 8. "CANNABIS GOODS" means cannabis and cannabis products in final form as defined in the California Code of Regulations, Title 4, section 15000 subd. (i).
- 9. "CANNABIS CONCENTRATE" means cannabis that has undergone a process to concentrate one or more active cannabinoids, thereby increasing the product's potency or resin from glandular trichomes from cannabis plant is a concentrate as identified in Business and Professions Code section 26001, subdivision (g) and California Code of Regulations, Title 4, section 15000 subdivision (h).
- 10. "MANUFACTURING" refers to compounding, blending, extracting, infusing, or otherwise making or preparing a CANNABIS PRODUCT; the production, preparation, propagation, or compounding of CANNABIS or CANNABIS PRODUCTS either directly or

c.

The name, occupation, and capacity of each recipient of the document or

Please produce all leases pertaining to the UNLICENSED PREMISES within the last 5

28

1	years.
2	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 4:
3	Please produce all DOCUMENTS reflecting any rental payments made for the
4	UNLICENSED PREMISES within the last 5 years.
5	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 5:
6	Please produce all DOCUMENTS reflecting the purchase of the UNLICENSED
7	PREMISES within the last 5 years.
8	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 6:
9	Please produce all DOCUMENTS reflecting the sale of the UNLICENSED PREMISES
10	within the last 5 years.
11	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 7:
12	Please produce any and all income and expense statements arising from any business
13	activity at the UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
14	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 8:
15	Please produce any and all income and expense statements arising from any business
16	activity at the LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
17	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 9:
18	Please produce any and all asset and liability statements arising from any business activity
19	at the UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
20	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 10:
21	Please produce any and all asset and liability statements arising from any business activity
22	at the LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
23	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 11:
24	Please produce any and all balance sheets arising from any business activity at the
25	UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
26	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 12:
27	Please produce any and all balance sheets arising from any business activity at the
28	LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.

1 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 13:** 2 Please produce any and all sources and uses of cash statements arising from any business 3 activity at the UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date. 4 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 14:** 5 Please produce any and all sources and uses of cash statements arising from any business 6 activity at the LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date. 7 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 15:** 8 Please produce any and all sources and uses of funds statements arising from any business 9 activity at the UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date. 10 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 16:** 11 Please produce any and all sources and uses of funds statements arising from any business 12 activity at the LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date. 13 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 17:** 14 Please produce any and all statements of accounts payable arising from any business 15 activity at the UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date. 16 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 18:** 17 Please produce any and all statements of accounts payable arising from any business 18 activity at the LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date. 19 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 19:** 20 Please produce any and all statements of accounts receivable arising from any business 21 activity at the UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date. 22 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 20:** 23 Please produce any and all statements of accounts receivable arising from any business 24 activity at the LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date. 25 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 21:** 26 Please produce any and all equipment leases arising from any business activity at the 27 UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date. 28 **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 22:**

1	Please produce any and all equipment purchase DOCUMENTS arising from any business
2	activity at the UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
3	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 23:
4	Please produce any and all equipment purchase DOCUMENTS arising from any business
5	activity at the LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
6	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 24:
7	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting the sale of CANNABIS and
8	CANNABIS PRODUCT(S) that were MANUFACTURED at, or DISTRIBUTED from the
9	UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
10	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 25:
11	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting the sale of CANNABIS and
12	CANNABIS PRODUCT(S) that were MANUFACTURED at, or DISTRIBUTED from the
13	LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
14	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 26:
15	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting the purchase of CANNABIS,
16	CANNABIS PRODUCT(S), or CANNABIS CONCENTRATE for use in MANUFACTURING
17	processes at the UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
18	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 27:
19	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting the purchase of CANNABIS,
20	CANNABIS PRODUCT(S), or CANNABIS CONCENTRATE for use in MANUFACTURING
21	processes at the LICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
22	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 28:
23	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting the receipt of CANNABIS,
24	CANNABIS PRODUCT(S), or CANNABIS CONCENTRATE at the UNLICENSED
25	PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
26	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 29:
27	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting the receipt of CANNABIS,
28	CANNABIS PRODUCT(S), or CANNABIS CONCENTRATE at the LICENSED PREMISES

1	from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
2	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 30
3	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting the transportation, shipment, or
4	movement of CANNABIS, CANNABIS PRODUCTS, or CANNABIS CONCENTRATE from
5	the LICENSED PREMISES to the UNLICENSED PREMISES.
6	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 31
7	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting the transportation, shipment, or
8	movement of CANNABIS, CANNABIS PRODUCTS, or CANNABIS CONCENTRATE from
9	the UNLICENSED PREMISES to the LICENSED PREMISES.
10	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 32:
11	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting any GROSS REVENUE from the
12	MANUFACTURING of CANNABIS and CANNABIS PRODUCT(S) from the UNLICENSED
13	PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
14	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 33:
15	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting any GROSS REVENUE from the
16	MANUFACTURING of CANNABIS and CANNABIS PRODUCT(S) from the LICENSED
17	PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
18	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 34:
19	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting any GROSS REVENUE from the
20	DISTRIBUTION of CANNABIS and CANNABIS PRODUCT(S) to, from, or at the
21	UNLICENSED PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
22	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 35:
23	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS reflecting any GROSS REVENUE from the
24	DISTRIBUTION of CANNABIS and CANNABIS PRODUCT(S) to, from, or at the LICENSED
25	PREMISES from January 1, 2018 through the present date.
26	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 36:
27	Please produce DOCUMENTS related to the governance of Vertical Bliss Inc, Kushy
28	Punch, Inc., Conglomerate Marketing, LLC., and More Agency, Inc. DOCUMENTS related to

1	governance of these business entities, for the purposes of this request include articles of
2	incorporation, statements of information, agendas of director or officer meetings, minutes of any
3	such meetings, as well as resolutions, amendments, or other documents generated in the course of
4	observing corporate formalities related to meetings of directors, officers, and/or shareholders.
5	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 37:
6	Please provide all DOCUMENTS that show the CANNABIS AND CANNABIS
7	PRODUCTS INVENTORY as well as any other INVENTORY, whether held individually or
8	with or through Vertical Bliss Inc, Kushy Punch, Inc, Conglomerate Marketing, LLC, More
9	Agency, Inc., Ruben Kachian, Arutyun Barsamyan, Mike A. Toroyan or any other PERSON
10	associated with these individuals or business entities from January 1, 2018 to the Present Date.
11	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 38:
12	Please produce any and all DOCUMENTS that are in YOUR possession related to any
13	purchase, sale, or transfer of any right to use or authorization to use the Kushy Punch name, logo,
14	or proprietary or patented recipes, formulas, or ingredients used in MANUFACTURING
15	CANNABIS PRODUCTS.
16	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 39:
17	To evaluate the required "PROFITS" realized for the purpose of assessing civil penalties
18	identified in Business and Professions Code section 26038, subdivision (a)(1)(D), please provide
19	original copies of YOUR COMPLETE STATE AND FEDERAL PERSONAL INCOME TAX
20	RETURNS, from January 1, 2018 to present. (If the tax returns were filed electronically, provide
21	Form 8879, the IRS e-file Signature Authorization.)
22	REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 40:
23	To evaluate the required "PROFIT" civil penalty factor identified in Business and
24	Professions Code section 26038, subdivision (a)(1)(D), please provide all STATEMENTS OF
25	ACCOUNT from YOUR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS for all accounts held individually, with,
26	or through any PERSON, from January 1, 2018 to present.
27	

1	Dated: January 31, 2022	Respectfully Submitted,
2		ROB BONTA Attorney General of California
3		Attorney General of California HARINDER KAPUR Senior Assistant Attorney General
4		102
5		
6 7		ETHAN TURNER Deputy Attorney General
8		Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Plaintiff California Department of Cannabis Control
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Exhibit 2

From: <u>Natalie Clark</u>

To: <u>margarita@msalazarlaw.com</u>; <u>kevin@msalazarlaw.com</u>

Cc: <u>Ethan Turner</u>; <u>ian.stewart@wilsonelser.com</u>

Subject: Discovery Transmittal: CDPH; BCC v. Vertical Bliss, Inc. / 20CHCV00560

Date: Monday, January 31, 2022 5:36:49 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.jpq</u>

RFPD Toroyon Set 1.pdf RFPD Kachian Set 1.pdf RFPD Barsamyan Set 1.pdf

Good evening Ms. Salazar,

Please find the attached discovery in the above-named matter which will also follow via regular mail:

PLAINTIFF REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO DEFENDANT MIKE A. TOROYAN, SET ONE

PLAINTIFF REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO DEFENDANT RUBEN KACHIAN aka RUBEN CROSS, SET ONE

PLAINTIFF REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO DEFENDANT ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, SET ONE

Best regards,

Natalie Clark

Legal Secretary
Department of Justice
1300 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 210-6357

Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Teleworking 100%

Personal File Drop: https://fx.doj.ca.gov/filedrop/~xFagiS



Exhibit 3

 From:
 Margarita Salazar

 To:
 Ethan Turner

 Cc:
 Kevin Knox

Subject: Re: RFPs for Natural Person Defendants

Date: Monday, January 31, 2022 5:15:58 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.jpq</u>

RFP Mike A. Toroyon.pdf RFP Ruben Kachian.pdf RFP Arutyun Barsamyan.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Thank you, Ethan. I will produce documents tomorrow.

Thank you.

--m

Margarita Salazar

Tel. / Text: (619) 994-9578

On Jan 31, 2022, at 4:54 PM, Ethan Turner < Ethan. Turner@doj.ca.gov > wrote:

Margarita,

Attached are RFPs for your natural person defendants. The information sought relates principally to the profitability of the business entities and the proceeds that flowed directly to each of the natural person defendants. This information will be necessary for the Court to make a determination about the amount of civil penalties that can be assessed. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 26038, subd (a)(3)(D)).

This information will also be indispensable to mediation because determining the range of possible civil penalty orders will be necessary to deciding what a fair settlement would be.

For these reasons, this request for production is designed to request any documents that may be in your clients' possession which can assist in determining the profitability of the business entities and which also disclose the amount of money that each of them personally received in their respective roles in facilitating the activities of the business entities involved in this case. Also, because the operations of the unlicensed and licensed facilities were so intertwined, total compensation from, and total profitability of, the entire Vertical Bliss/Kushy Punch enterprise is relevant to determining the profitability of the unlicensed operation.

Identical RFPs were also sent to Holloran through his counsel. You will be cc'd on those RFPs when they are served by my secretary.

Because we believe that this information will be relevant to mediation, we hope that responses can be expedited. If possible, it would be great if we could get the responses before we have to submit our mediation briefs. We could also consider postponing the mediation to mutually agreed upon date that works for the selected mediator if these documents cannot be produced before that date.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Ethan Turner
Deputy Attorney General III
California Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General
Division of Civil Law
Cannabis Control Section
1300 I Street
1620-18

Sacramento, CA 95814 Office: (916) 210-7898

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Exhibit 4

From: Ethan Turner

To: "Margarita Salazar, Esq."; kevin@msalazarlaw.com
Cc: Harinder Kapur; Joshua Eisenberg; Michael Yun

Subject: Meet and Confer: The deadline for the Requests for Production has passed.

Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 3:43:28 PM

Attachments: RFPD Kachian Set 1.pdf

RFPD Barsamyan Set 1.pdf RFPD Toroyan Set 1.pdf

Ms. Salazar,

As you know, we served you and your clients, Ruben Kachian, Mike A. Toroyan, and Arutyun Barsamyan with requests for production on January 31, 2022 (see attached RFPs with proofs of service). They were sent by regular mail with courtesy copies sent via email. The deadline for your responses was yesterday, March 7, 2022.

We have previously stipulated to electronic service for all purposes, and hope that you'll be sending the requested documents via email, or if documents are excessive in size or number, we can send you a file exchange link. If you have already placed the requested documents in the mail, but have electronic versions of the documents, we would appreciate it if you could send us electronic copies of all documents.

In the event that you have not sent any responsive documents, please consider this email our effort to meet and confer on the topic of your failure to respond to the discovery requests.

Since the total absence of any response is not something that needs to be reviewed on an issue by issue basis, there is no need to have an extended conversation or correspondence on the topic. However, we would appreciate a response from you confirming that no responses have been sent. If this is, in fact the case, please note that we will be required to make another motion to compel and request for sanctions in response to your clients' refusal to participate in the discovery process.

Thanks,

Ethan Turner
Deputy Attorney General III
California Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General
Division of Civil Law
Cannabis Control Section
1300 I Street
1620-18
Sacramento, CA 95814

Office: (916) 210-7898



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From: Natalie Clark < Natalie. Clark@doj.ca.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 5:37 PM

To: margarita@msalazarlaw.com; kevin@msalazarlaw.com

Cc: Ethan Turner < Ethan. Turner@doj.ca.gov>; ian.stewart@wilsonelser.com **Subject:** Discovery Transmittal: CDPH; BCC v. Vertical Bliss, Inc. / 20CHCV00560

Good evening Ms. Salazar,

Please find the attached discovery in the above-named matter which will also follow via regular mail:

PLAINTIFF REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO DEFENDANT MIKE A. TOROYAN, SET ONE

PLAINTIFF REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO DEFENDANT RUBEN KACHIAN aka RUBEN CROSS, SET ONE

PLAINTIFF REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO DEFENDANT ARUTYUN BARSAMYAN, SET ONE

Best regards,

Natalie Clark

Legal Secretary
Department of Justice
1300 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (916) 210-6357

Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Teleworking 100%

Personal File Drop: https://fx.doj.ca.gov/filedrop/~xFagjS



Exhibit 5

From: Michael Yun
To: Margarita Salazar

Cc: Ethan Turner; Joshua Eisenberg; Harinder Kapur

Subject: DCC v. Vertical Bliss, Inc. et al., Case No. 20CHCV00560 - Court Ordered Meet and Confer in the Next Five Days

re: Outstanding Defense Discovery

Date: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 1:40:46 PM Attachments: image001.pnq

Importance: High

Dear Ms. Salazar:

Pursuant to the Court's verbal order this morning at the hearing on our Motion for Sanctions against Defendant Ruben Kachian, I am reaching out to schedule "a meet and confer within the next five days" regarding the outstanding defense discovery that has not yet been produced despite our previous, routine requests. Please advise when you're available to engage in a reasonable and good faith attempt to resolve any dispute concerning the discovery requests ahead of the following discovery motions currently scheduled and/or reserved:

05/26/2022 – Five (5) Motions to Compel Further Responses against your clients, Defendants Kushy Punch, Inc., Conglomerate Marketing, LLC, More Agency, Inc., Arutyun Barsamyan, and Mike A. Toroyan regarding (1) Responses to Form Interrogatories and (2) Requests for Admissions, Set One. As you are aware, three (3) of these Motions to Compel Further Responses—against Defendants Kushy Punch, Inc., Conglomerate Marketing, LLC, and More Agency, Inc.—are additionally regarding Requests for Production of Documents, Set One.

05/26/2022 – Motion to Compel Discovery against your client, Defendant Ruben Kachian regarding Request for Production of Documents, Set One.

06/07/2022 – Motion to Compel Discovery against Defendant Arutyun Barsamyan regarding Request for Production of Documents, Set One.

06/10/2022 – Motion to Compel Discovery against Defendant Mike A. Toroyan regarding Request for Production of Documents, Set One.

If you and your clients are willing to engage in the discovery process in good faith, and turn over requested discovery in time, subsequent motions for sanctions may no longer be necessary.

We are generally available for a virtual meet and confer this week including up to Friday, May 6, 2022 with the exception of the following time: Wednesday, 5/4 between 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Thursday, 5/5 between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m., and Friday, 5/6 between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. We are making ourselves available as much as possible to accommodate your schedule in order to comply with the Court's Order. Please let us know what day and time works best for you in order to avoid a delay in scheduling the meet and confer.

Respectfully,

Michael Yun

Michael Yun

Deputy Attorney General III California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General Cannabis Control Section

Direct: (310) 987-7170



From: <u>Michael Yun</u>
To: <u>Margarita Salazar</u>

Cc: Ethan Turner; Joshua Eisenberg; Harinder Kapur

Subject: Re: DCC v. Vertical Bliss, Inc. et al., Case No. 20CHCV00560 - Court Ordered Meet and Confer in the Next Five

Days re: Outstanding Defense Discovery

Date: Friday, May 6, 2022 11:27:32 AM

Attachments: image001.png image002.png

Importance: High

Ms. Salazar:

I am following-up on the below email as we have not heard back from you. Please let us know if you are available to speak today and we will set-up a meeting.

Respectfully,

Michael Yun

Michael Yun

Deputy Attorney General III California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General Cannabis Control Section

Direct: (310) 987-7170



From: Michael Yun < Michael. Yun@doj.ca.gov>

Date: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 1:40 PM

To: Margarita Salazar <margarita@msalazarlaw.com>

Cc: Ethan Turner < Ethan. Turner @doj.ca.gov>, Joshua Eisenberg

<Joshua.Eisenberg@doj.ca.gov>, Harinder Kapur <Harinder.Kapur@Doj.Ca.Gov>

Subject: DCC v. Vertical Bliss, Inc. et al., Case No. 20CHCV00560 - Court Ordered Meet and

Confer in the Next Five Days re: Outstanding Defense Discovery

Dear Ms. Salazar:

Pursuant to the Court's verbal order this morning at the hearing on our Motion for Sanctions against Defendant Ruben Kachian, I am reaching out to schedule "a meet and confer within the next five days" regarding the outstanding defense discovery that has not yet been produced despite our previous, routine requests. Please advise when you're available to engage in a reasonable and good faith attempt to resolve any dispute concerning the discovery requests ahead of the following discovery motions currently scheduled and/or reserved:

05/26/2022 – Five (5) Motions to Compel Further Responses against your clients, Defendants Kushy Punch, Inc., Conglomerate Marketing, LLC, More Agency, Inc., Arutyun Barsamyan, and Mike A. Toroyan regarding (1) Responses to Form Interrogatories and (2) Requests for Admissions, Set One. As you are aware, three (3) of these Motions to Compel Further Responses—against Defendants Kushy Punch, Inc., Conglomerate Marketing, LLC, and More Agency, Inc.—are additionally regarding Requests for Production of Documents, Set One.

05/26/2022 – Motion to Compel Discovery against your client, Defendant Ruben Kachian regarding Request for Production of Documents, Set One.

06/07/2022 – Motion to Compel Discovery against Defendant Arutyun Barsamyan regarding Request for Production of Documents, Set One.

06/10/2022 – Motion to Compel Discovery against Defendant Mike A. Toroyan regarding Request for Production of Documents, Set One.

If you and your clients are willing to engage in the discovery process in good faith, and turn over requested discovery in time, subsequent motions for sanctions may no longer be necessary.

We are generally available for a virtual meet and confer this week including up to Friday, May 6, 2022 with the exception of the following time: Wednesday, 5/4 between 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Thursday, 5/5 between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m., and Friday, 5/6 between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. We are making ourselves available as much as possible to accommodate your schedule in order to comply with the Court's Order. Please let us know what day and time works best for you in order to avoid a delay in scheduling the meet and confer.

Respectfully,

Michael Yun

Michael Yun

Deputy Attorney General III California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General Cannabis Control Section

Direct: (310) 987-7170



Exhibit 6

From: <u>Michael Yun</u>
To: <u>Margarita Salazar</u>

Cc: <u>Ethan Turner</u>; <u>Joshua Eisenberg</u>; <u>Harinder Kapur</u>

Subject: DCC v. Vertical Bliss, Inc., et al., Case No. 20CHCV00560 - Meet and Confer on May 6, 2022

Date: Monday, May 9, 2022 8:02:17 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Ms. Salazar:

This email is to confirm our telephonic meet and confer that took place on May 6, 2022 at 3:30 p.m., pursuant to the Court's verbal order. Participating in the teleconference were Deputy Attorney General ("DAG") Ethan Turner, Supervising Deputy Attorney General Josh Eisenberg, me, and you. We addressed the outstanding defense discovery responses in this case as they relate to the discovery motions currently scheduled and/or reserved for filing, previously mentioned in my email to you, dated May 3, 2022, and expressly reiterated during our teleconference.

During the meet and confer, you represented that you will provide all responses and further responses to (1) Form Interrogatories, (2) Requests for Admissions, and (3) Requests for Production of Documents as to all of your clients including (1) Ruben Kachian a.k.a. Ruben Cross, (2) Vertical Bliss, Inc., (3) Kushy Punch, Inc., (4) Conglomerate Marketing, LLC, (5) More Agency, Inc., (6) Arutyun Barsamyan, and (7) Mike A. Toroyan by Friday, May 13, 2022. DAG Turner stated that Plaintiff will proceed with the discovery motions. We also stated that if all outstanding defense discovery items are adequately produced, we may then take the discovery motions off calendar.

Respectfully,

Michael Yun

Michael Yun

Deputy Attorney General III California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General Cannabis Control Section

Direct: (310) 987-7170



CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This communication with its contents may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information. It is solely for the use of the intended recipient(s). Unauthorized interception, review, use or disclosure is prohibited and may violate applicable laws including the Electronic Communications Privacy Act. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy all copies of the communication.



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Professional Name	Professional Type	Transaction Date	Task Code	Task Code Description	Transaction Narrative	Hours	Fees
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		5/2/22	Gen-29	Supervisory Review	Received, reviewed, and edited motion for sanctions against defendants in Vertical Bliss matter, sent revisions to SAAG and assigned DAGs for further editing, requested return copy for further review.	1.75	\$385.0
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		5/10/22	Gen-29	Supervisory Review	Received, reviewed, and edited motion to compel, correspondence with SAAG regarding review, received and reviewed SAAG's further edits to motion, sent back to deputies with instructions.	1.50	\$330.0
		5/12/22	Gen-29	Supervisory Review	Reviewed and edited declarations in support of motions to compel, sent edits to SAAG as part of review process, reviewed SAAG's edits and sent back to DAGs for further review and editing.	0.75	\$165.0



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Ethan A. Turner	Attorney						
		1/31/22	Gen-12	Discovery- Offensive	Sent the RFPs to each respective counsel electronically and sent them to secretary to have them served via mail. Sent each opposing attorney an email requesting that the documents be produced as quickly as practicable.	1.25	\$275.00
		1/31/22	Gen-12	Discovery- Offensive	request for production for each natural person defendant and sent them to my secretary to have them served on opposing counsel.	1.50	\$330.00



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		3/7/22	Gen-12	Discovery- Offensive	Corresponded with opposing counsel, and Co-DAG regarding RFPs for natural person defendants	1.00	\$220.0



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Ethan A. Turner	Attorney	Date	Code	Description			
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		4/5/22	Gen-04	Analysis/	Spoke on telephone with DAG Yun and then had conference call with SAAG, SDAG, and DAG Yun	2.00	\$440.00
				Strategy	conference call with SAAG, SDAG, and DAG Yun about filing additional motions to compel and requests for sanctions.		



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Ethan A. Turner	Attorney						
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		5/9/22	Gen-12	Discovery- Offensive	Reviewed documents to be filed for motion to compel. Had follow up email correspondence and telephone discussion with DAG Yun about edits and how the factual statements could be framed in he declaration.	1.00	\$220.00
		5/9/22	Gen-12	Discovery- Offensive	compel. Had follow up email correspondence and telephone discussion with DAG Yun about edits and how the factual statements could be framed in he	1.00	\$22



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Michael Yun	Attorney			-			
	3/7/22	Gen-04	Analysis/ Strategy	Reviewed email from co-counsel DAG Ethan Turner regarding defendants' failures to provide requested production of discovery items;	0.50	\$110.00	
		3/7/22	Gen-04	Analysis/ Strategy	Reviewed email from SAAG Harinder Kapur regarding her thoughts on strategy regarding defendantsâ?? failures to provided requested production of items.	0.25	\$55.00
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Michael Yun	Attorney						
		5/2/22	Gen-15	Other Submission/ Motion/ Appearance	Worked on drafting Motion to Compel Defendants Ruben Kachian, Arutyun Barsamyan, and Mike Toroyan for response to DCC's Request for Production, Set One, and emailed it to SDAG Josh Eisenberg and SAAG Harinder Kapur for their review and feedback.	3.25	\$715.00
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Michael Yun	Attorney						
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		5/6/22	Gen-06	Communication with Other Party	Sent email to opposing counsel Margarita Salazar to attempt again to set up a meet and confer regarding her and her clients' outstanding discovery in accordance with Court's verbal order on May 3, 2022 because Salazar has not gotten back to her, again.	0.25	\$55.00
		5/6/22	Gen-06	Communication with Other Party	Teleconference with opposing counsel Margarita Salazar pursuant to Court's instruction, along with co-counsel DAG Ethan Turner and SDAG Josh Eisenberg.	0.25	\$55.00
		5/6/22	Gen-12	Discovery- Offensive	Case discussion with co-counsel DAG Ethan Turner, SDAG Josh Eisenberg, and SAAG Harinder Kapur regarding discovery.	0.50	\$110.00
		5/9/22	Gen-04	Analysis/ Strategy	Case discussion with co-counsel DAG Ethan Turner as it relates to our meet and confer with opposing counsel Margarita Salazar.	0.25	\$55.00



Professional Name	Professional Type	Transaction Date	Task Code	Task Code Description	Transaction Narrative	Hours	Fees
Michael Yun	Attorney						
		5/9/22	Gen-06	Communication with Other Party	Sent email to opposing counsel Margarita Salazar.	0.25	\$55.00
		5/9/22	Gen-15	Other Submission/ Motion/ Appearance	Communication with co-counsel DAG Ethan Turner about drafts of Motions to Compel Responses to Request for Production of Documents, Set One, as to Defendants Arutyun Barsamyan and M ke A. Toroyan.	0.25	\$55.00
		5/9/22	Gen-15	Other Submission/ Motion/ Appearance	Worked on drafting Motions to Compel Responses to Request for Production of Documents, Set One, as to Defendants Arutyun Barsamyan and Mike A. Toroyan.	5.50	\$1,210.00
		5/11/22	Gen-04	Analysis/ Strategy	Case discussion with SDAG Josh Eisenberg as it relates to two Motions to Compel Responses to Requests for Production, Set One, as to Defendants Arutyun Barsamyan and M ke A. Toroyan.	0.25	\$55.00
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Professional Name	Professional Type	Transaction Date	Task Code	Task Code Description	Transaction Narrative	Hours	Fees
Michael Yun	Attorney			•			
		5/11/22	Gen-15	Other Submission/ Motion/ Appearance	Reviewed preliminary drafts of Declarations in Support of MTC as to Defendants Arutyun Barsamyan and Mike A. Toroyan.	1.00	\$220.00
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Professional Name	Professional Type	Transaction Date	Task Code	Task Code Description	Transaction Narrative	Hours	Fees
Michael Yun	Attorney	5/13/22	Gen-15	Other Submission/ Motion/ Appearance	Requested cost accounting from AGO Accounting in preparation of cost declaration portion of Declaration in Support of Motion to Compel Responses to Request for Production of Documents, Set One, as to two (2) Defendants Arutyun Barsamyan and Mike A. Toroyan; reviewed and redacted the documents; prepared them as an exhibit to the Declaration; prepared all exhibits to be attached to the Declaration; additional work on Motion to Compel.	3.00	\$660.00

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY E-MAIL & U.S. MAIL

Case Name: California Department of Public Health, et al. v. Vertical Bliss, Inc., et al.

Case No.: **20CHCV00560**

I declare:

I am employed in the Office of the Attorney General, which is the office of a member of the California State Bar, at which member's direction this service is made. I am 18 years of age or older and not a party to this matter.

On January 31, 2022, I served the attached:

PLAINTIFF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CANNABIS CONTROL'S REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO DEFENDANT MIKE A. TOROYAN, SET ONE

by transmitting a true copy via regular and electronic mail to the following addresses:

Margarita Salazar, Esq. 470 Third Ave Suite 9 Chula Vista, CA 91910-4663 margarita@msalazarlaw.com kevin@msalazarlaw.com Attorney for Defendants

Ian Stewart

Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker LLP

Email: <u>Ian.Stewart@wilsonelser.com</u> *Attorney for Defendant Kevin Halloran*

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States of America the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on January 31, 2022, at Sacramento, California.

N. Clark	h Dar
Declarant	Signature

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