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9
10 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
11 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

12 EVANSTON POLICE PENSION FUND,
13 Individually and on Behalf of All Others
14 Similarly Situated,

15 Plaintiff,

16 v.

17 MCKESSON CORPORATION, JOHN H.
18 HAMMERGREN, and JAMES BEER,

19 Defendants.

Case No. 3:18-cv-06525

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 Plaintiff Evanston Police Pension Fund (“Plaintiff”), by and through its counsel,
 2 Bleichmar Fonti & Auld LLP (“BFA” or “Counsel”), alleges the following upon personal
 3 knowledge as to themselves and their own acts, and upon information and belief as to all other
 4 matters. Plaintiff’s information and belief are based on, among other things, the independent
 5 investigation of Counsel. This investigation includes, but is not limited to, a review and analysis
 6 of: (i) public filings by McKesson Corporation (“McKesson” or the “Company”) with the
 7 Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”); (ii) transcripts of McKesson senior
 8 management’s conferences with investors and analysts; (iii) press releases and media reports
 9 issued by and disseminated by the Company; (iv) analyst reports concerning McKesson; and (v)
 10 other public information and data regarding the Company.

11 **NATURE OF THE ACTION AND OVERVIEW**

12 1. This is a class action on behalf of persons and entities that purchased or acquired
 13 McKesson common stock between October 24, 2013 and January 25, 2017 inclusive (the “Class
 14 Period”), against (i) McKesson; (ii) Chief Executive Officer John H. Hammergren (“CEO” or
 15 “Hammergren”); and (iii) former Chief Financial Officer James Beer (“CFO” or “Beer,”
 16 collectively “Defendants”), and were damaged thereby, under the Securities Exchange Act of
 17 1934 (the “Exchange Act”).

18 2. McKesson delivers pharmaceutical and medical products and business services to
 19 retail pharmacies and institutional healthcare providers such as hospitals and health systems
 20 throughout North America and internationally. The majority of its income is derived from its
 21 business as a pharmaceutical wholesaler in which it purchases drugs in bulk directly from
 22 manufacturers and then sells and distributes those drugs to pharmacy networks, hospitals, and
 23 independent pharmacies.

24 3. Throughout the Class Period, Defendants participated in a price-fixing and
 25 anticompetitive scheme in the sale and distribution of generic pharmaceutical drugs with
 26 manufacturers and other wholesalers. On October 31, 2017, a group of State Attorneys General
 27 leading a years-long investigation into companies in the generic pharmaceuticals industry
 28

published a press release that stated in relevant part: “[T]he states’ investigation involves allegations of conspiracy and collusion within the entirety of the generic drug industry, and wholesalers, distributors and other customers are certainly players within the industry.” Indeed, throughout the Class Period McKesson’s touted its financial success and reported financial results that were false and misleading because they failed to disclose that they were unsustainable and premised on illegal activity.

4. The Class Period begins on October 24, 2013, the day McKesson released its financial results for the second quarter of its fiscal year 2014 by filing a Current Report on Form 8-K and a Form 10-Q with the SEC reporting those results and touting the growth of its pharmaceutical distribution business.¹

5. By 2017, however, the investigation by governmental authorities was in full swing and caused the anticompetitive scheme to unravel. McKesson was no longer able to fix prices with drug manufacturers and other wholesalers. As a result, on January 25, 2017, the last day of the Class Period, McKesson announced disappointing financial results for the third quarter of fiscal year 2017. Defendant Hammergren told investors that the poor results were “a result of the generic pricing actions we began to implement late in our second quarter,” as McKesson’s “prices were ultimately set at a lower level than our initial expectations that were included in our previous guidance.” On this news, McKesson’s stock price declined by \$12.55 per share, or 8.3%, to close at \$138.55 on January 26, 2017, on unusually heavy trading volume.

6. Throughout the Class Period, Defendants made materially false and/or misleading statements, as well as failed to disclose material adverse facts about the Company’s business, operations, and prospects. Specifically, Defendants made false and/or misleading statements and/or failed to disclose that: (i) McKesson and several of its industry peers colluded to fix the price of certain generic drugs; (ii) the collusive conduct constituted a violation of federal antitrust laws; (iii) consequently, McKesson’s revenues during the Class Period were, in part, the result

¹ McKesson’s fiscal year begins on April 1 of the prior calendar year, i.e., fiscal year 2014 began on April 1, 2013.

1 of illegal conduct and were therefore unsustainable; (iv) McKesson lacked effective internal
2 controls over financial reporting; and (v) as a result, McKesson's public statements were
3 materially false and misleading at all relevant times.

4 7. As a result of Defendants' wrongful acts and omissions, and the precipitous
5 decline in the market value of the Company's common stock, Plaintiff and other Class members
6 have suffered significant losses and damages.

7 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

8 8. The claims asserted herein arise under Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Exchange
9 Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 78j(b) and 78t(a)) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by the SEC
10 (17 C.F.R. §240.10b-5).

11 9. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28
12 U.S.C. §§ 1331, and Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §78aa).

13 10. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to Section 27 of the Exchange Act and
14 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because McKesson's headquarters are located within this District and
15 Defendants conducted substantial economic activity in the District. As such, substantial acts in
16 furtherance of the alleged fraud have occurred in this District.

17 11. In connection with the acts alleged in this complaint, Defendants, directly or
18 indirectly, used the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, including, but not limited
19 to, the mails, interstate telephone communications, and the facilities of the national securities
20 markets.

21 **PARTIES**

22 12. Plaintiff Evanston Police Pension Fund provides and distributes pension funds for
23 retired police officers of the city of Evanston, Illinois as well as the families of deceased police
24 officers. Plaintiff purchased McKesson common stock during the Class Period, as detailed in the
25 Certification attached hereto and incorporated herein, and has been damaged thereby.

1 19. On or around July 8, 2014, the Attorney General of Connecticut began
2 investigating generic drug price increases and began issuing subpoenas to generic drug
3 manufacturers.

4 20. In October 2014, Congress sent letters to more than a dozen generic drug
5 manufacturers requesting information concerning the pricing of certain generic drugs.

6 21. By November 2014, the Department of Justice (“DOJ”) convened a grand jury
7 and began to issue its own subpoenas to generic drug manufacturers.

8 22. As part of its investigation, Congress requested that the U.S. Government
9 Accountability Office (“GAO”) undertake an audit of the generic drugs that the federal
10 government purchased under the Medicare Part D program. On September 12, 2016, the GAO
11 published its report (“the GAO Report”). The GAO found hundreds of unexplained price
12 increases over 100%. The price of some drugs had even increased more than 1000%.

13 23. On November 3, 2016, *Bloomberg* published an article titled “U.S. Charges in
14 Generic Drug Probe to Be Filed By Year End,” which revealed that “U.S prosecutors are bearing
15 down on generic pharmaceutical companies in a sweeping criminal investigation into suspected
16 price collusion” as the “antitrust investigation by the Justice Department begun about two years
17 ago, now spans more than a dozen companies and about two dozen drugs.”

18 24. On December 14, 2016, the DOJ announced that it had charged the former CEO
19 and President of Heritage Pharmaceuticals Inc. for their roles in conspiracies to fix prices, rig
20 bids, and allocate customers for certain generic drugs.

21 25. The following day, December 15, 2016, the Connecticut Attorney General
22 announced that he, and 19 other State Attorneys General, had filed a federal lawsuit for antitrust
23 violations against six major drug companies. Currently, the Attorneys General of nearly every
24 U.S. state has joined the action.

25 **Materially False and Misleading Statements Issued During the Class Period**

26 26. On October 24, 2013, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the
27 SEC announcing the Company’s financial results for the second quarter of its fiscal year 2014
28

1 (the “Q2 2014 8-K”). McKesson (i) reported second quarter GAAP earnings per diluted share
2 of \$1.74; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted share from continuing operations of \$2.27;
3 and (iii) provided Adjusted Earnings per diluted share from continuing operations guidance for
4 fiscal year 2014 of \$8.40 to \$8.70.

5 27. McKesson also reported quarterly gross profits of \$2 billion on revenues of \$33
6 billion, \$28.1 billion of which came from its U.S. Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services
7 business unit – the drug wholesaler division. The total reported revenue represented an 11%
8 increase over the same period in the prior fiscal year.

9 28. On the same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
10 financial results previously announced in the Q2 2014 8-K and reporting its financial and
11 operating results for the second quarter of its fiscal year 2014 (the “Q2 2014 10-Q”).

12 29. The Q2 2014 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley
13 Act of 2002 (“SOX”) by Defendants Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial
14 reporting, the disclosure of any material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial
15 reporting, and the disclosure of fraud – or lack thereof.

16 30. On January 30, 2014, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the
17 SEC announcing the Company’s financial results for the third quarter of its fiscal year 2014 (the
18 “Q3 2014 8-K”). McKesson (i) reported third quarter GAAP earnings per diluted share from
19 continuing operations of \$0.67; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted share from continuing
20 operations of \$1.45; and (iii) provided Adjusted Earnings per diluted share from continuing
21 operations guidance for fiscal year 2014 of \$8.05 to \$8.20.

22 31. McKesson also reported gross profits of \$1.8 billion on revenues of \$34.3 billion,
23 \$29.3 billion of which came from its U.S. Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services business
24 unit. The reported revenue represented a 10% increase over the same period in the prior fiscal
25 year.

1 32. On the same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
2 financial results previously announced in the Q3 2014 8-K and reporting its financial and
3 operating results for the third quarter of its fiscal year 2014 (the “Q3 2014 10-Q”).

4 33. The Q3 2014 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by Defendants
5 Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure of any
6 material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and the disclosure
7 of fraud – or lack thereof.

8 34. On May 12, 2014, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the SEC
9 announcing the Company’s financial results for the fourth quarter and fiscal year 2014 (the “2014
10 8-K”). McKesson (i) reported GAAP earnings per diluted share from continuing operations of
11 \$1.56 for the quarter and \$5.83 for the fiscal year; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted
12 share of \$2.55 for the quarter and \$8.35 for the fiscal year; and (iii) provided Adjusted Earnings
13 per diluted share guidance for fiscal year 2015 of \$10.40 to \$10.80.

14 35. McKesson also reported annual gross profit of \$8.3 billion on revenues of \$137.6
15 billion, \$123.9 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and
16 Services business unit. The reported revenue represented a 13% increase over fiscal year 2013.

17 36. On May 14, 2014, McKesson filed an Annual Report on Form 10-K with the SEC
18 reiterating the financial results previously announced in the 2014 8-K and reporting its financial
19 and operating results for the fourth quarter and full fiscal year 2014 (the “2014 10-K”).

20 37. In the 2014 10-K, McKesson also stated that its “Code of Conduct” was
21 “applicable to all employees, officers, and directors” and available on the Company’s website.

22 38. McKesson’s Code of Conduct in effect at the time of the filing of the 2014 10-K
23 expressly stated “This Code applies globally to all employees, officers, and directors – regardless
24 of position or tenure. We also seek business partners who share our values and commitment to
25 doing business with integrity.”

1 39. Regarding “Fair Competition,” the Code of Conduct stated:

2 We value a marketplace in which McKesson competes to sell superior services
3 and quality products at fair prices. Laws in many of the places where we do
4 business are intended to protect fair an open competition. ***To comply with these
5 laws you should not discuss coordinate, or agree with a competitor to fix prices,
split or “fix” bids, refuse to deal with (or boycott) a supplier or customer, or
otherwise limit distribution channels.***

6 40. The 2014 Form 10-K contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by
7 Defendants Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure
8 of any material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and the
9 disclosure of fraud – or lack thereof.

10 41. On July 31, 2014, McKesson filed a Current Report Form 8-K with the SEC
11 announcing the Company’s financial results for the first quarter of its fiscal year 2015 (the “Q1
12 2015 8-K”). McKesson (i) reported first quarter GAAP earnings per diluted share from
13 continuing operations of \$1.78; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted share from continuing
14 operations of \$2.49; and (iii) provided Adjusted Earnings per diluted share guidance for fiscal
15 year 2015 of \$10.50 to \$10.90.

16 42. McKesson also reported gross profits of \$2.8 billion on revenues of \$44.1 billion,
17 \$34.4 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services
18 business unit. The reported revenue represented a 37% increase over the same period in the prior
19 fiscal year.

20 43. On the same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
21 financial results previously announced in the Q1 2015 8-K and reporting its financial and
22 operating results for the first quarter of its fiscal year 2015 (the “Q1 2015 10-Q”).

23 44. The Q1 2015 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by Defendants
24 Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure of any
25 material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and the disclosure
26 of fraud – or lack thereof.

1 45. On October 28, 2014, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the
2 SEC announcing the Company's financial results for the second quarter of its fiscal year 2015
3 (the "Q2 2015 8-K"). McKesson (i) reported second quarter GAAP earnings per diluted share
4 from continuing operations of \$2.05; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted share from
5 continuing operations of \$2.79; and (iii) provided Adjusted Earnings per diluted share guidance
6 for fiscal year 2015 of \$10.50 to \$10.90.

7 46. McKesson also reported gross profits of \$2.9 billion on revenues of \$44.8 billion,
8 \$35.1 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services
9 business unit. The reported revenue represented a 36% increase over the same period in the prior
10 fiscal year.

11 47. On the same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
12 financial results previously announced in the Q2 2015 8-K and reporting its financial and
13 operating results for the second quarter of its fiscal year 2015 (the "Q2 2015 10-Q").

14 48. The Q2 2015 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by Defendants
15 Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure of any
16 material changes to the Company's internal control over financial reporting, and the disclosure
17 of fraud – or lack thereof.

18 49. On February 5, 2015, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the
19 SEC announcing the Company's financial results for the third quarter of its fiscal year 2015 (the
20 "Q3 2015 8-K"). McKesson (i) reported third quarter GAAP earnings per diluted share from
21 continuing operations of \$2.01; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted share from continuing
22 operations of \$2.89; and (iii) provided increased fiscal year 2015 guidance for Adjusted Earnings
23 per diluted share of \$10.80 to \$10.95.

24 50. McKesson also reported gross profits of \$2.9 billion on revenues of \$47 billion,
25 \$37.4 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services
26 business unit. The reported revenue represented a 37% increase over the same period in the prior
27 fiscal year.

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1 51. On the same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
2 financial results previously announced in the Q3 2015 8-K and reporting its financial and
3 operating results for the third quarter of its fiscal year 2015 (the “Q3 2015 10-Q”).

4 52. The Q3 2015 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by Defendants
5 Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure of any
6 material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and the disclosure
7 of fraud – or lack thereof.

8 53. On May 12, 2015, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the SEC
9 reporting the Company’s financial results for the fourth quarter and fiscal year 2015 (the “2015
10 8-K”). McKesson (i) reported GAAP earnings per diluted share from continuing operations of
11 \$1.69 for the quarter and \$7.54 for the fiscal year; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted
12 share of \$2.94 for the quarter and \$11.11 for the fiscal year; and (iii) provided Adjusted Earnings
13 per diluted share guidance for fiscal year 2016 of \$12.20 to \$12.70.

14 54. McKesson also reported annual gross profit of \$11.4 billion on revenues of \$179
15 billion, \$143.7 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and
16 Services business unit. The reported revenue represented a 30.3% increase over fiscal year 2014.

17 55. On the same day, McKesson filed an Annual Report on Form 10-K with the SEC
18 reiterating the financial results previously announced in the 2015 8-K and reporting its financial
19 and operating results for the fourth quarter and full fiscal year 2015 (the “2015 10-K”).

20 56. In the 2015 10-K, McKesson also stated that its “Code of Conduct” was
21 “applicable to all employees, officers, and directors” and was available on the Company’s
22 website.

23 57. McKesson’s Code of Conduct in effect at the time of the filing of the 2015 10-K
24 expressly stated “This Code applies globally to all employees, officers, and directors – regardless
25 of position or tenure. We also seek business partners who share our values and commitment to
26 doing business with integrity.”

1 58. Regarding “Fair Competition,” the Code of Conduct stated:

2 We value a marketplace in which McKesson competes to sell superior services
3 and quality products at fair prices. Laws in many of the places where we do
4 business are intended to protect fair an open competition. ***To comply with these
5 laws you should not discuss coordinate, or agree with a competitor to fix prices,
split or “fix” bids, refuse to deal with (or boycott) a supplier or customer, or
otherwise limit distribution channels.***

6 59. The 2015 Form 10-K contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by
7 Defendants Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure
8 of any material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and the
9 disclosure of fraud – or lack thereof.

10 60. On July 29, 2015, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the SEC
11 announcing the Company’s financial results for the first quarter of its fiscal year 2016 (the “Q1
12 2016 8-K”). McKesson (i) reported first quarter GAAP earnings per diluted share from
13 continuing operations of \$2.50; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted share of \$3.14; and
14 (iii) provided Adjusted Earnings per diluted share guidance for fiscal year 2016 of \$12.36 to
15 12.86.

16 61. McKesson also reported gross profits of \$2.8 billion, on revenues of \$47.5 billion,
17 \$39.5 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services
18 business unit. The reported revenue represented a 9% increase over the same period in the prior
19 fiscal year.

20 62. On the same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
21 financial results previously announced in the Q1 2016 8-K and reporting its financial and
22 operating results for the first quarter of its fiscal year 2016 (the “Q1 2016 10-Q”).

23 63. The Q1 2016 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by Defendants
24 Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure of any
25 material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and the disclosure
26 of fraud – or lack thereof.

1 64. On October 29, 2015, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the
2 SEC announcing the Company's financial results for the second quarter of its fiscal year 2016
3 (the "Q2 2016 8-K"). McKesson (i) reported second quarter GAAP earnings per diluted share
4 from continuing operations of \$2.65; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted share of \$3.31;
5 and (iii) provided increased Adjusted Earnings per diluted share guidance for fiscal year 2016 of
6 \$12.50 to \$13.00.

7 65. McKesson also reported gross profits of 2.8 billion on revenues of \$48.7 billion,
8 \$40.6 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services
9 business unit. The reported revenue represented a 10% increase over the same period in the prior
10 fiscal year.

11 66. On the same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
12 financial results previously announced in the Q2 2016 8-K and reporting its financial and
13 operating results for the second quarter of its fiscal year 2016 (the "Q2 2016 10-Q").

14 67. The Q2 2016 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by Defendants
15 Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure of any
16 material changes to the Company's internal control over financial reporting, and the disclosure
17 of fraud – or lack thereof.

18 68. On January 27, 2016, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the
19 SEC announcing the Company's financial results for the third quarter of its fiscal year 2016 (the
20 "Q3 2016 8-K"). McKesson (i) reported third quarter GAAP earnings per diluted share from
21 continuing operations of \$2.71; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted share of \$3.18; and
22 (iii) provided Adjusted Earnings per diluted share guidance for fiscal year 2016 of \$12.60 to
23 \$12.90.

24 69. McKesson also reported gross profits of \$2.9 billion on revenues of \$47.9 billion,
25 \$39.6 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services
26 business unit. The reported revenue represented a 3% increase over the same period in the prior
27 fiscal year.

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1 70. On the same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
2 financial results previously announced in the Q3 2016 8-K and reporting its financial and
3 operating results for the third quarter of its fiscal year 2016 (the “Q3 2016 10-Q”).

4 71. The Q3 2016 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by Defendants
5 Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure of any
6 material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and the disclosure
7 of fraud – or lack thereof.

8 72. On May 4, 2016, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the SEC
9 announcing the Company’s financial results for the fourth quarter and fiscal year 2016 (the “2016
10 8-K”). McKesson (i) reported GAAP earnings per diluted share from continuing operations of
11 \$1.97 for the quarter and \$9.84 for the fiscal year; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted
12 share of \$2.44 for the quarter and \$12.08 for the fiscal year; and (iii) provided Adjusted Earnings
13 per diluted share guidance for fiscal year 2017 of \$13.30 to \$13.80.

14 73. McKesson also reported annual gross profit of \$11.4 billion on revenues of \$190.9
15 billion, 158.5 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and
16 Services business unit. The reported revenue represented a 6.6% increase over fiscal year 2015.

17 74. On May 5, 2016, McKesson filed an Annual Report on Form 10-K with the SEC
18 reiterating the financial results previously announced in the 2016 8-K and reporting its financial
19 and operating results for the fourth quarter and full fiscal year 2016 (the “2016 10-K”).

20 75. In the 2016 10-K, McKesson also stated that its “Code of Conduct” was
21 “applicable to all employees, officers, and directors” and was available on the Company’s
22 website.

23 76. McKesson’s Code of Conduct in effect at the time of the filing of the 2015 10-K
24 expressly stated “This Code applies globally to all employees, officers, and directors – regardless
25 of position or tenure. We also seek business partners who share our values and commitment to
26 doing business with integrity.”

1 77. Regarding “Fair Competition,” the Code of Conduct stated:

2 We value a marketplace in which McKesson competes to sell superior services
3 and quality products at fair prices. Laws in many of the places where we do
4 business are intended to protect fair an open competition. ***To comply with these
5 laws you should not discuss coordinate, or agree with a competitor to fix prices,
split or “fix” bids, refuse to deal with (or boycott) a supplier or customer, or
otherwise limit distribution channels.***

6 78. The 2016 Form 10-K contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by
7 Defendants Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure
8 of any material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and the
9 disclosure of fraud – or lack thereof.

10 79. On July 27, 2016, McKesson filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the SEC
11 announcing the Company’s financial results for the first quarter of its fiscal year 2017 (the “Q1
12 2017 8-K”). McKesson (i) reported first quarter GAAP earnings per diluted share from
13 continuing operations of \$2.88; (ii) reported Adjusted Earnings per diluted share of \$3.51; and
14 (iii) provided increased Adjusted Earnings per diluted share guidance for fiscal year 2016 of
15 \$13.43 to \$13.93, excluding charges from a Cost Alignment Plan.

16 80. McKesson also reported gross profits of \$2.9 billion on revenues of \$49.7 billion,
17 \$41.2 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services
18 business unit. The reported revenue represented a 5% increase over the same period in the prior
19 fiscal year.

20 81. On that same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
21 financial results previously announced in the Q1 2017 8-K and reporting its financial and
22 operating results for the first quarter of its fiscal year 2017 (the “Q1 2017 10-Q”).

23 82. The Q1 2017 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by Defendants
24 Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure of any
25 material changes to the Company’s internal control over financial reporting, and the disclosure
26 of fraud – or lack thereof.

1 83. On October 27, 2016, after the close of trading, McKesson filed a Current Report
2 on Form 8-K filed with the SEC announcing certain of the Company's financial results for the
3 second quarter of its fiscal year 2017 (the "Q2 2017 8-K"). McKesson (i) reported quarterly
4 GAAP earnings per diluted share from continuing operations of \$1.35; (ii) reported Adjusted
5 Earnings per diluted share of \$2.94; and (iii) provided guidance for Adjusted Earnings per diluted
6 share to \$12.25 to \$12.85.

7 84. McKesson also reported gross profit of \$2.8 billion on revenues of \$50 billion,
8 \$41.3 billion of which came from its North American Pharmaceutical Distribution and Services
9 business unit. The reported revenue represented a 2% increase over the same period in the prior
10 fiscal year.

11 85. On October 27, 2016, McKesson also filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating
12 the financial results previously announced in the Q2 2017 8-K and reporting its financial and
13 operating results for the second quarter of its fiscal year 2017 (the "Q2 2017 10-Q").

14 86. The Q2 2017 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to SOX by
15 Defendants Hammergren and Beer, attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure
16 of any material changes to the Company's internal control over financial reporting, and the
17 disclosure of fraud – or lack thereof.

18 87. The statements referenced in ¶¶ 26 to 86 were materially false and misleading
19 when made because: (i) McKesson and several of its industry peers colluded to fix the price of
20 certain generic drugs; (ii) the collusive conduct constituted a violation of federal antitrust laws;
21 (iii) consequently, McKesson's revenues during the Class Period were, in part, the result of illegal
22 conduct and were therefore unsustainable; (iv) McKesson lacked effective internal controls over
23 financial reporting; and (v) as a result, McKesson's public statements were materially false and
24 misleading at all relevant times.

25 88. After the close of trading on January 25, 2017, the last day of the Class Period,
26 McKesson announced disappointing financial results for the third quarter of its fiscal year 2017.
27 On a Current Report filed on a Form 8-K filed with the SEC announcing the Company's financial
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1 results for the third quarter of 2017 (the “Q3 2017 8-K”), McKesson disclosed an Adjusted
 2 Earnings per diluted share of \$3.05, a 4% decrease from the same period in the prior fiscal year.
 3 Significantly, McKesson also reported lower than expected North American Pharmaceutical
 4 Distribution and Services business unit revenue of \$41.7 billion.

5 89. On the same day, McKesson filed a Form 10-Q with the SEC reiterating the
 6 financial results previously announced in the Q3 2017 8-K and reporting its financial and operating
 7 results for the third quarter of its fiscal year 2017 (the “Q3 2017 10-Q”). The poor financial
 8 results were due to the materialization of the risk that the price fixing scheme would unravel and
 9 lead to materially lower revenues and profits. As a result of this news, McKesson’s common
 10 stock price per share dropped from \$151.10 at the close of trading on January 25, 2017, to
 11 \$138.55 on January 26, 2017, on heavy trading volume and the Class was damaged thereby.

12 **POST CLASS PERIOD EVENTS**

13 90. On October 31, 2017, a press release published by the State Attorneys General in
 14 connection with their latest proposed amended complaint stated the Attorneys General were
 15 continuing to investigate companies in the industry beyond those already identified. The press
 16 release specifically stated, “[T]he states’ investigation involves allegations of conspiracy and
 17 collusion with the entirety of the generic drug industry, and wholesalers, distributors and other
 18 customers are certainly players within the industry.”

19 91. On December 18, 2017, McKesson announced that Defendant Beer would leave
 20 the Company “to pursue a new opportunity.”

21 **LOSS CAUSATION**

22 92. During the Class Period, as detailed herein, Defendants made materially false and
 23 misleading statements and omissions, and engaged in a scheme to deceive the market. This
 24 artificially inflated the price of McKesson common stock and operated as a fraud or deceit on the
 25 Class. Later, when Defendants’ prior misrepresentations and fraudulent conduct were disclosed
 26 to the market on January 25, 2017, as alleged herein, the price of McKesson common stock fell
 27 precipitously, as the prior artificial inflation came out of the price. As a result of its purchases of
 28

McKesson common stock during the Class Period, Plaintiff and other members of the Class suffered economic loss, *i.e.*, damages, under the federal securities laws.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

93. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of all persons who purchased or otherwise acquired McKesson common stock during the Class Period (the “Class”). Excluded from the Class are Defendants and their families, directors, and officers of McKesson and their families and affiliates.

94. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. The disposition of their claims in a class action will provide substantial benefits to the parties and the Court. As of June 30, 2018, there were approximately 200 million shares of McKesson stock outstanding, owned by at least thousands of investors.

95. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved in this case. Questions of law and fact common to the members of the Class which predominate over questions which may affect individual Class members include:

- A. Whether Defendants violated the Exchange Act;
- B. Whether Defendants omitted and/or misrepresented material facts;
- C. Whether Defendants’ statements omitted material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;
- D. Whether Defendants knew or recklessly disregarded that their statements and/or omissions were false and misleading;
- E. Whether the price of McKesson’s common stock was artificially inflated;
- F. Whether Defendants’ conduct caused the members of the Class to sustain damages; and
- G. The extent of damage sustained by Class members and the appropriate measure of damages.

1 96. Plaintiff's claims are typical of those of the Class because Plaintiff and the Class
2 sustained damages from Defendants' wrongful conduct.

3 97. Plaintiff will adequately protect the interests of the Class and has retained counsel
4 experienced in class action securities litigation. Plaintiff has no interests which conflict with
5 those of the Class.

6 98. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient
7 adjudication of this controversy.

8 **INAPPLICABILITY OF STATUTORY SAFE HARBOR**

9 99. McKesson's "Safe Harbor" warnings accompanying its forward-looking
10 statements issued during the Class Period were ineffective and inapplicable and cannot shield the
11 statements at issue from liability.

12 100. Defendants are also liable for any false or misleading forward-looking statements
13 pleaded herein because, at the time each such statement was made, the speaker knew the
14 statement was false or misleading and the statement was made by or authorized and/or approved
15 by an executive officer of McKesson who knew that the statement was false.

16 101. None of the historic or present tense statements made by Defendants were
17 assumptions underlying or relating to any plan, projection, or statement of future economic
18 performance, as they were not stated to be such assumptions underlying or relating to any
19 projection or statement of future economic performance when made, nor were any of the
20 projections or forecasts made by Defendants expressly related to, or stated to be dependent on,
21 those historic or present tense statements when made.

22 **PRESUMPTION OF RELIANCE**

23 102. At all relevant times, the market for McKesson's common stock was an efficient
24 market for the following reasons, among others:

25 A. McKesson stock met the requirements for listing, and was listed and actively
26 traded on the NYSE, a highly efficient and automated market;

27 B. As a regulated issuer, McKesson filed periodic public reports with the SEC;

1 C. McKesson regularly and publicly communicated with investors via established
 2 market communication mechanisms, including through regular disseminations of
 3 press releases on the national circuits of major newswire services and through
 4 other wide-ranging public disclosures, such as communications with the financial
 5 press and other similar reporting services; and

6 D. McKesson was followed by several securities analysts employed by major
 7 brokerage firms who wrote reports which were distributed to the sales force and
 8 certain customers of their respective brokerage firms. Each of these reports was
 9 publicly available and entered the public marketplace.

10 103. As a result of the foregoing, the market for McKesson common stock promptly
 11 digested current information regarding McKesson from all publicly available sources and
 12 reflected such information in the price. Under these circumstances, all purchasers of McKesson's
 13 common stock during the Class Period suffered similar injury through their purchase of
 14 McKesson common stock at artificially inflated prices and the presumption of reliance applies.

15 104. A Class-wide presumption of reliance is also appropriate in this action under the
 16 Supreme Court's holding in *Affiliated Ute Citizens of Utah v. United States*, 406 U.S. 128 (1972),
 17 because the Class' claims are grounded on Defendants' material omissions.

18 **COUNT I**

19 **For Violation of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 Against All Defendants**

20 105. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above as if
 21 fully set forth herein.

22 106. During the Class Period, Defendants carried out a plan, scheme, and course of
 23 conduct which was intended to and, throughout the Class Period, did: (i) deceive the investing
 24 public, including Plaintiff and other Class members, as alleged herein; and (ii) cause Plaintiff and
 25 other members of the Class to purchase McKesson common stock at artificially inflated prices.

26 107. Defendants (i) employed devices, schemes, and artifices to defraud; (ii) made
 27 untrue statements of material fact and/or omitted to state material facts necessary to make the
 28

1 statements not misleading; and (iii) engaged in acts, practices, and a course of business which
2 operated as a fraud and deceit upon the purchasers of the Company's common stock in an effort
3 to maintain artificially high market prices for McKesson common stock in violation of Section
4 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder.

5 108. Defendants, individually and in concert, directly and indirectly, by the use, means
6 or instrumentalities of interstate commerce and/or of the mails, engaged and participated in a
7 continuous course of conduct to conceal adverse material information about the Company's
8 financial well-being, operations, and prospects.

9 109. During the Class Period, Defendants made the false statements specified above
10 which they knew or recklessly disregarded to be false or misleading in that they contained
11 misrepresentations and failed to disclose material facts necessary in order to make the statements
12 made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

13 110. Defendants had actual knowledge of the misrepresentations and omissions of
14 material fact set forth herein, or recklessly disregarded the true facts that were available to them.
15 Defendants engaged in this misconduct to conceal McKesson's true condition from the investing
16 public and to support the artificially inflated prices of the Company's common stock.

17 111. Plaintiff and the Class have suffered damages in that, in reliance on the integrity
18 of the market, they paid artificially inflated prices for McKesson's common stock. Plaintiff and
19 the Class would not have purchased the Company's common stock at the prices they paid, or at
20 all, had they been aware that the market prices had been artificially inflated by Defendants'
21 fraudulent course of conduct.

22 112. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff and
23 the other members of the Class suffered damages in connection with their respective purchases
24 of the Company's common stock during the Class Period.

25 113. By virtue of the foregoing, Defendants violated Section 10(b) of the Exchange
26 Act and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder.

COUNT II

For Violation of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act Against the Individual Defendants

114. Plaintiff repeats, incorporates, and re-alleges each and every allegation set forth above as if fully set forth herein.

115. The Individual Defendants acted as controlling persons of McKesson within the meaning of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act. By virtue of their high-level positions participation in and/or awareness of the Company's operations, direct involvement in the day-to-day operations of the Company, and/or intimate knowledge of the Company's actual performance, and their power to control public statements about McKesson, the Individual Defendants had the power and ability to control the actions of McKesson and its employees. By reason of such conduct, the Individual Defendants are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

116. **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff prays for judgment as follows:

- A. Determining that this action is a proper class action under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;
- B. Awarding compensatory damages in favor of Plaintiff and other Class members against all Defendants, jointly and severally, for all damages sustained as a result of Defendants' wrongdoing, in an amount to be proven at trial, including interest thereon;
- C. Awarding Plaintiff and the Class their reasonable costs and expenses incurred in this action, including attorneys' fees and expert fees; and
- D. Awarding such equitable/injunctive or other further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

117. Plaintiff demands a jury trial.

1 Dated: October 25, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

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