# EGLET TADAMS

**CLERK OF THE COURT CMPL** 1 ROBERT T. EGLET, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 3402 2 CASSANDRA S.M. CUMMINGS, ESQ. 3 Nevada Bar No. 11944 CASE NO: A-21-829884-C **EGLET ADAMS** Department 28 400 S. Seventh St., Suite 400 4 Las Vegas, NV 89101 5 (702) 450-5400; Fax: (702) 450-5451 eservice@egletlaw.com 6 7 MATTHEW L. SHARP, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 4746 MATTHEW L. SHARP, LTD. 432 Ridge Street Reno, NV 89501 (775) 324-1500; Fax: (775) 284-0675 10 Attorneys for Plaintiff 11 12 13 14 **DISTRICT COURT** 15 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 16 17 HUNTER CAIN, individually and on behalf of all those similarly situated, Case No.: 18 Dept. No.: Plaintiff. 19 **COMPLAINT** VS. 20 USAA CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY, **REQUEST FOR BUSINESS** 21 **COURT** DOES 1 through 10, Defendants. 22 **EXEMPT FROM** 23 **ARBITRATION** 24 **Jury Trial Demanded** 25 26 Plaintiff, Hunter Cain, by and through undersigned counsel and on behalf of himself and 27 all other similarly situated, hereby submits this Class Action Complaint against Defendant, USAA 28 CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY (hereinafter "USAA"), and DOES 1 through 10.

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### I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. This action seeks class-wide relief for Defendant USAA's failure to provide and charge a fair and appropriate insurance premium and to provide premium reduction to its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and on behalf of all Nevada residents who held automobile insurance policies through USAA as of March 1, 2020, and who have thereafter continued to be USAA automobile policyholders.
- 3. Plaintiff and the class, along with everyone in this country, have faced substantial life changes since March 1, 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic, including reduced driving time and miles. The reduction of driving time and miles driven reduces the risk associated with insuring Plaintiff and the class members' vehicles. USAA has not taken the appropriate action to reduce Plaintiff and the class members' premiums to accurately reflect the decreased risk.

### II. **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff, Hunter Cain, is a resident of the State of Nevada, and a current automobile insurance policyholder of USAA.
- 5. Defendant, USAA Casualty Insurance Company, is a Texas company, with offices at 9800 Fredericksburg Road, San Antonio, Texas, 78288, and is licensed in Nevada to sell automobile insurance policies within the State of Nevada.
- 6. Defendants DOE 1 through 10 are insurance companies that fall within the USAA umbrella that provide policies of automobile insurance to Nevada residents.
- 7. That the true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise, of the Defendants herein designated as DOE are unknown to Plaintiff at this time who therefore sue said Defendants by fictitious names. Plaintiff alleges that each named Defendant herein designated as DOE is negligently, willfully, contractually, or otherwise legally responsible for the events and happenings herein referred to and proximately caused damages to Plaintiff as herein alleged. Plaintiff will seek leave of Court to amend this Complaint to insert the true names and capacities of such Defendants when same have been ascertained and will further seek leave

to join said Defendant in these proceedings. Plaintiff believes each Defendant named as DOE was responsible for contributing to Plaintiff's damages as set forth herein.

## III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 8. That exercise of jurisdiction by this Court over each and every Defendant in this action is appropriate because each and every Defendant has done, and continues to do business in the State of Nevada, and contracted with Nevada residents, breached contracts with Nevada residents, and violated Nevada laws.
- 9. USAA is an insurance company licensed to do business in Nevada, and it sells automobile insurance to Nevada residents and charges and collects premiums from those citizens.
- 10. USAA sold a Nevada insurance policy to Plaintiff where he resides in Clark County, Nevada.
- 11. That exercise of jurisdiction by this Court is further appropriate where Plaintiff resides in the County of Clark, State of Nevada.
- 12. That this Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action. That exercise of the jurisdiction by this Court over USAA in this action is appropriate because USAA has done, and continues to do, business in the State of Nevada, and committed the wrongdoings alleged in this Complaint in the State of Nevada. Additionally, this Court has jurisdiction over the claims alleged herein as they arise out of contracts entered into with Nevada residents and USAA's actions violate Nevada law.

### IV. FACTUAL BACKGROUND APPLICABLE TO THE PROPOSED CLASS

- 13. USAA is a prolific underwriter of automobile insurance in Nevada.
- 14. On information and belief, and throughout the entirety of the COVID-19 pandemic, USAA has enjoyed a substantial share of the auto insurance market in Nevada. At all times relevant to this case, USAA has derived substantial revenues and profits from the sale of automobile insurance to Nevada residents, including Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated.

### V. GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

15. Coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19"), is a novel, virus-borne, and potentially deadly illness that impacts various systems within the body of those infected with the disease. Since its emergence in late 2019, it has spread rapidly across the globe, reaching pandemic levels. On January 20, 2020, it was declared a "public health emergency of international concerns" by the World Health Organization. A week later, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services declared the virus a public health emergency in the United States.

16. COVID-19 is highly contagious and appears capable of spreading exponentially through transmission by persons who are symptomatic, asymptomatic, or pre-symptomatic.

17. As of the date of this complaint, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recorded over 28 million cases of COVID-19, and over 497,000 COVID-related deaths in the U.S. alone.

18. The State of Nevada suffered over 4,700 COVID-related deaths as of the date of this Complaint.<sup>1</sup>

19. On March 12, 2020, Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak issued the Declaration of Emergency for COVID-19.<sup>2</sup> In that declaration, the Governor "determined that the State of Nevada is experiencing events that require a coordinated response for the health and safety of the public." The declaration "will remain in effect until the Chief Medical Officer notifies the Governor that the health event has been abated and the Governor issues an order terminating the emergency."

20. On March 15, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued the COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Directive 001 closing all "public, community, and private K-12 schools in the state" until the Order is rescinded.<sup>5</sup>

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visited January 28, 2021).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*<sup>4</sup> *Id* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>https://gov.nv.gov/News/Emergency Orders/2020/2020-03-15 - COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Directive 001/ (last visited January 28, 2021).



21. On March 19, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Directive 002 closing all in-person gaming establishments.<sup>6</sup>

22. On March 20, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Directive 003 closing all "non-essential businesses" that promote social gatherings and prolonged interactions between individuals where risk of transmission is high. These businesses included recreation centers, clubhouses, nightclubs, movie theaters, massage parlors, adult entertainment establishments, brothels, live entertainment venues, gyms and studios, and aesthetic services (i.e. beauty shops, tanning salons, wax salons).

23. On March 24, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Directive 007, which stated that "[t]he Nevada general public shall not gather in groups of ten or more in any indoor or outdoor area," and directing local governments to limit the general public's use of "recreational equipment, including, without limitation, playground equipment, basketball courts, volleyball courts, baseball fields, beaches, or football fields, in a manner that causes the congregation of ten or more persons."

24. On November 10, 2020, Governor Sisolak once again urged all Nevadans to restrict their activities outside the home to only those essential activities for two (2) weeks, dubbed "Stay at Home 2.0." This request is a direct result of the rising numbers of COVID-19 infections within the State. The Governor warned that, if the infection numbers do not decrease, the State will likely be subject to another mandatory shut-down.

25. The practical effect of the COVID-19 crisis and the State of Nevada's response thereto has been to dramatically reduce the vehicle traffic on Nevada's roads. With non-essential businesses and schools closed as well as the limitation on the size of gatherings and people forced

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://gov nv.gov/News/Emergency Orders/2020/2020-03-18 - COVID-

<sup>19</sup> Declaration of Emergency Directive 002/ (last visited January 28, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://gov.nv.gov/News/Emergency Orders/2020/2020-03-20 - COVID-

<sup>19</sup> Declaration of Emergency Directive 003 (Attachments)/ (last visited January 28, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> https://gov nv.gov/News/Emergency Orders/2020/2020-03-24 - COVID-

<sup>19</sup> Declaration of Emergency Directive 007 (Attachments)/ (last visited January 28, 2021).

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to remain at home due to the public health crisis, Nevada residents have been driving less frequently and shorter distances.

26. Vehicular traffic throughout Nevada has been greatly reduced during the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, in April 2020, the vehicular traffic at the Nevada-California border was sixty-six percent (66%) lower than it was in April 2019. Traffic volumes decreased between sixty percent (60%) to seventy percent (70%) compared to the same time periods in 2019. These reductions have been statewide.

27. With fewer people driving fewer miles, there are fewer automobile accidents and, therefore, fewer automobile insurance claims. The COVID-19 pandemic has thus led to a dramatic reduction in automobile insurance claims by Nevada residents. For example, there was a sixty percent (60%) reduction in automobile accidents in Southern Nevada in March 2020 from the prior year. This significant drop in driving, collisions, and automobile insurance claims during the pandemic will almost certainly continue for the foreseeable future, and for as long as the COVID-19 crisis continues.

28. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a dramatic reduction in the number of Nevada automobile insurance claims that have been submitted and will be submitted to USAA.

29. Insurance companies have provided varying forms of premium refunds or credits during the COVID-19 pandemic ranging from nothing at all to the 35% CHUBB provided to its insureds. These refunds or credits are arbitrary and inconsistent in amount and duration. In fact, the only consistency among the refunds or credits is that they are arbitrary and capricious, as well as insufficient to provide fair, actual, and meaningful relief to the insureds as illustrated in the following table:

<b>Insurance Company</b>	Quantity	Duration
Acuity	\$50 - \$100 one time refund	One time
	(amount depends on the	
	number of insured vehicles)	
Allstate	15% discount	2 months (April & May
		2020)

Farmers Insurance	25% credit for 1 month and 15% for 1 month	2 months (April & May 2020)
Geico	15% credit	For an entire policy, but ONLY upon insurance renewal between April 8 – Oct 7, 2020.
Liberty Mutual	15% refund	2 months (April & May 2020)
Nationwide	\$50	One time
Progressive	20% credit	2 months (April & May 2020)
State Farm	25% credit	3 months (March – May 2020)
Travelers	15% credit	3 months (April - June 2020)
USAA	20% credit for 3 months then reduced to a 10% credit for 2 months	5 months (March – July 2020)

Though each insurance provider represented to its insureds that it understood the challenges individuals are facing during the COVID-19 pandemic and presented that fair refunds and credits were being issued, yet, none of them offered any meaningful relief that actually reflects the reduction in cars on the road and reduced driving during the pandemic.

## A. USAA's Wrongdoing

- 30. Personal insurance rates are set to cover future expected claims and expenses. Auto insurers, including the Defendant USAA, develop such rates by extrapolating from recent historical experience with premium payments, claims submitted, claim settlement expenses, and non-claim selling and administrative expenses, and then projecting future claims and costs from that data.
- 31. Under Nevada law, Defendant USAA may not charge an insurance premium that is excessive.
- 32. A premium is based, in part, upon what Defendant USAA anticipates for future claims payments both in severity and frequency, and premiums are calculated based upon the extent of the insured's normal driving routine.



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- 33. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, the frequency and severity of claims incurred by USAA were dramatically reduced and significantly less than what was anticipated when the premium was charged.
- 34. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, USAA insureds drove significantly less than what was anticipated by USAA when it developed the premium. As an example, Plaintiff's driving time and mileage has been, and continues to be, greatly reduced because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 35. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, USAA has and will incur significantly less expenses in claim payments than what was anticipated when the premium was charged.
- 36. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, USAA has charged and collected an excessive premium to its insureds in the past and into the future.
- 37. USAA is aware that it cannot charge an excessive premiums, and it has an affirmative duty under the law to return any excessive premiums that were collected.
- 38. Many auto insurers have provided what the industry refers as "premium relief" to their policyholders, but the so-called "relief" is actually designed to allow insurers to retain excessive premiums in light of COVID-19 restrictions.
- 39. USAA knows that the premiums it charged and collected following COVID-19 restrictions were grossly excessive.
- 40. Specifically, in statements posted on its website (and still shown on the website as of the filing of this Complaint), USAA promised its customers a one time "reduced-driving discount" on their policies. USAA offered a twenty percent (20%) credit for the months of March, April, and May 2020, and a ten percent (10%) credit for the months of June, and July 2020. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have not received any other reduction from USAA even though COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc in Nevada 11 months after the emergency declaration and will continue for the foreseeable future.
- 41. This premium credit is inadequate such that even if the credit is applied to Plaintiff and those similarly situated, the Plaintiff has paid and will continue to pay a grossly excessive premium.



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- 42. This premium credit is designed to allow USAA to retain a grossly excessive premium and to continue charging a grossly excessive premium into the future.
- 43. USAA has and will continue to receive a windfall as a result of, the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 44. USAA, has continued to retain the excessive premium Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have paid and will pay into the future.

### VI. **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

- 45. Plaintiff, Hunter Cain brings this action on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, as representatives of the following proposed class: All Nevada residents who were automobile insurance policyholders of Defendant USAA as of March 1, 2020, and who have thereafter continued to be USAA automobile insurance policyholders.
- 46. Numerosity: Upon information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that the total number of Class members is dispersed across the State of Nevada. Consequently, joinder of the individual Class members would be impracticable. While the exact number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time, and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff believes that there are thousands of members in the proposed Class such that the disposition of the individual claims of the respective Class members through this Class action will benefit both the parties and this Court, and will facilitate judicial economy.
- 47. Ascertainability: The Class is ascertainable because, on information and belief, each Class member who holds a policy for automobile insurance through USAA that was active as of March 1, 2020, is kept and stored in USAA's electronic database and records.
- 48. Typicality: Plaintiff's claims are typical of the members of the Class. The claims of Plaintiff and the members of the Class are based on the same legal theories and arise from the same conduct. As such, the claims of the Plaintiff and the Class rise and fall together and are typical of one another.
- 49. Common Questions of Fact and Law Predominate: Judicial determination of the common legal and factual issues essential to this case would be far more efficient and economical as a class

action than in piecemeal individual determinations. There is no plain, speedy, or adequate remedy other than by maintenance of this lawsuit as a class action because individual actions for premium refunds are relatively small, making it economically infeasible for Class Members to pursue remedies individually. The prosecution of separate actions by individual Members of the Class, even if theoretically possible, would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to the individual Class Members against Defendants and would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the Defendants. There are several questions of law or fact common to all Class members including, but not limited to:

- a. Whether each member of the proposed class was a policyholder under an existing USAA automobile insurance policy as of March 1, 2020, and has since continued to be a USAA policyholder;
- b. Whether USAA has charged each member an excessive premium following COVID-19 restrictions;
- c. Whether each member of the proposed class has been offered or provided with the inadequate premium reduction described in paragraph 40 above;
- d. Whether the fairness and/or reasonableness of USAA's program of premium reduction, as described above, is governed by the terms of its automobile policies and Nevada law;
- e. Whether USAA's offer or provision of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 40 above, constitutes an unfair or deceptive act or practice;
- f. Whether USAA implemented its offer of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 40 above, with the expectation that others would rely upon any misrepresentation, or any concealment or omission of material fact, subsumed within such offer;
- g. Whether USAA's program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 40 above, is unfair and/or unreasonable;

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- h. Whether USAA's program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 40 above, constitutes a breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing contained in each of the company's Nevada automobile insurance policies;
- Whether USAA's program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 40 above, results in a violation of Nevada law; and
- Whether USAA owes greater COVID-related premium reduction to its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders.
- 50. Adequacy of Representation: Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class because his interests do not conflict with the interests of the other members of the Class. Plaintiff will fairly, adequately, and vigorously represent and protect the interests of the members of the Class and have no interests antagonistic to the members of the Class. Plaintiff has retained counsel who are competent and experienced in the prosecution of complex consumer class action litigation. Plaintiff's attorneys have the resources, expertise, and experience to prosecute this action, and do not have knowledge of any conflicts among the members of Plaintiff's Class, or any conflicts between the Class and Plaintiff's attorneys.
- 51. Superiority: The class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because: (a) the prosecution of a multitude of separate actions would be inefficient and wasteful of judicial resources; (b) the members of the Class may be scattered throughout Nevada and are not likely to be able to enforce their rights unless this action is maintained as a class action; (c) the issues raised can be more fairly and efficiently resolved in the context of a single action rather than through piecemeal litigation in the context of separate actions; (d) the resolution of litigation in a single forum will avoid the danger and resultant confusion of possible inconsistent determinations; (e) the prosecution of separate actions would create the risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications; (f) Defendants have acted and will act on grounds applicable to all Class members; (g) individual Class members' premium refund claims are relatively small and the expense and burden of individual litigation makes it impossible for Class members to individually redress the wrongs done to them; and (h) questions of law

and/or fact common to the Class, especially on issues of liability, predominate over any individual question.

# VII. CAUSES OF ACTION FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

## **Declaratory Relief Pursuant to NRS 30.040**

- 52. Plaintiff, Hunter Cain, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 51 above.
  - 53. USAA has charged an excessive premium following COVID-19 restrictions.
- 54. USAA's program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 40 above, continues to unlawfully deprive its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders of the full and fair COVID-related premium relief to which they are entitled.
- 55. USAA's program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 40 above, is designed to secure for USAA, and has secured and will continue to secure for USAA, an unfair windfall at the expense of USAA's Nevada automobile insurance policyholders.
  - 56. USAA's program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 40 above, is unlawful.
- 57. An actual controversy of a justiciable nature exists regarding the contractual relationship between the Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, and USAA, concerning the parties' rights and obligations with respect to USAA's program of COVID-related premium reduction.
- 58. The controversy is of sufficient immediacy to justify the entry of a declaratory judgment regarding the contracts between the Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated, and USAA.
- 59. An actual controversy of a justiciable nature exists regarding USAA's statutory responsibilities to provide automobile insurance and to not charge excessive premiums.
- 60. An award of declaratory relief by this Court will terminate some or all the existing controversy between the parties.

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## **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

### **Breach of Contract**

- 61. Plaintiff, Hunter Cain, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 60 above.
- 62. Plaintiff, and Class members, each entered an insurance contract for automobile insurance with USAA.
  - 63. The insurance contract is governed by Nevada law.
- 64. USAA agreed to charge a premium that was reasonable in relation to the risk and was not excessive.
- 65. USAA considers several factors in determining its customer's premiums, which include driving history and vehicle usage, all to get to a fair rate based upon risk.
- 66. USAA is aware that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions materially changed the nature of the risk being insured because there was a material decrease in the claims frequency and severity.
- 67. In light of the change of the risk being insured, the pre-COVID-19 premium is excessive in relation to the COVID-19 risks.
- 68. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, paid an excessive premium when they paid the premium USAA charged.
- 69. USAA breached the insurance contract when it collected an excessive premium from Plaintiff and those similarly situated.
- 70. As a direct result of USAA's breach of contract, Plaintiff Hunter Cain, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, have been damaged as they paid an excessive premium and will continue to pay an excessive premium into the future.
- 71. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing and as a result of the breach by Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have sustained damages in an amount exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).

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72. It has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of counsel to represent him, and those similarly situation, to bring this action, and Plaintiff is entitled to recovery of attorneys' fees and costs incurred herein.

### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

## **Breach of the Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing (Contract)**

- 73. Plaintiff, Hunter Cain, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 72 above.
- 74. Each existing automobile insurance policy USAA has issued in the State of Nevada contains an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.
- 75. USAA owes a duty of good faith and fair dealing to Plaintiff and those similarly situated to act in a manner that is faithful to the purpose and spirit of the contract.
- 76. In order to fulfill the purpose and spirit of the contract, USAA must charge a premium that is reasonable in relation to the risk insured against and is not excessive.
- 77. USAA is aware that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions materially changed the nature of the risk being insured because there was a material decrease in the claims frequency and severity.
- 78. In light of the change of the risk being insured, the pre-COVID-19 premium is excessive in relation to the COVID-19 risks.
- 79. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, paid an excessive premium when they paid the premium USAA charged.
- 80. USAA has deliberately contravened the intention and spirit of the contract by collecting and retaining the excessive premium.
- 81. USAA breached its duty of good faith and fair dealing when it collected and collected and retained an excessive premium from Plaintiff and those similarly situated.
- 82. As a direct result of USAA's breach of contract, Plaintiff Hunter Cain, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, have been damaged as they paid an excessive premium and will continue to do so into the future.



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83. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing and as a result of the breach by Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have sustained damages in an amount exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).

84. It has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of counsel to represent him, and those similarly situation, to bring this action, and Plaintiff is entitled to recovery of attorneys' fees and costs incurred herein.

## **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

### **Bad Faith**

- 85. Plaintiff, Hunter Cain, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 84 above.
- 86. USAA owes a duty of good faith and fair dealing to Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated insureds, and the duty is imposed by law.
- 87. As part of its duty of good faith and fair dealing, USAA has a fiduciary-like relationship to Plaintiff and all other similarly situated insureds.
- 88. Under the law, Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated insureds, have the right to expect trust and confidence in the integrity and fidelity of USAA.
- 89. USAA contracted with Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, to provide protection, peace of mind, and security as it relates to their automobile insurance.
- 90. As set forth herein, USAA, as part of its fiduciary-like duties, cannot charge or retain an excessive premium.
- 91. USAA has breached its duty of good faith and fair dealing by charging and collecting from Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, an excessive premium.
- 92. USAA has acted unreasonably with knowledge there is no unreasonable basis for its conduct.
- 93. USAA represented to its customers, including Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, that it was taking measures to reduce costs to Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, during the COVID-19 crisis.



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94. USAA misrepresented the nature of any relief it may offer to its customers, including Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated.

95. USAA offered a twenty percent (20%) credit for the months of March, April, and May 2020, and a ten percent (10%) credit for the months of June, and July 2020. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have not received any other reduction from USAA even though COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc in Nevada 11 months after the emergency declaration and will continue for the foreseeable future.

- 96. This credit is insufficient particularly where driving in the State has declined between forty percent (40%) and seventy percent (70%) depending on the week.
- 97. In so doing, USAA is taking advantage of its insureds, including Plaintiff and those similarly situated, by continuing to collect and charge excessive premiums despite the greatly reduced risk and enjoying substantial profits as a result.
- 98. USAA has acted in bad faith in breaching the fiduciary responsibility it owes to Plaintiff and all those similarly situated.
- 99. USAA's actions were not keeping with the relationship of trust and confidence with its insureds, including Plaintiff and all those similarly situated.
- 100. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing and as a result of the breach by Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have sustained damages as they have paid and will continue to pay into the future in an amount exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).
- 101. Defendant made intentional misrepresentations to its insureds and acted with conscious disregard to the rights of its insureds thus entitling Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, to an award of punitive damages.
- 102. It has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of counsel to represent him, and those similarly situation, to bring this action, and Plaintiff is entitled to recovery of attorneys' fees and costs incurred herein.

### FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

## Violation of Nevada's Deceptive Trade Practices Act (NRS §§ 598.0903 to 598.0999)

- 103. Plaintiff, Hunter Cain, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, repeats, and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 102 above.
- 104. At all times relevant herein, Defendants violated the Nevada Deceptive Trade Practices Act, §§ 598.0903 to 598.0999, by representing to its automobile insurance policyholders that they will receive premium rates based upon risk factors, offering an inadequate premium reduction in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and failing to take into consideration the ongoing decrease in risk due to the decreased volume of vehicle traffic on all roads throughout Nevada.
- 105. Defendants made false or misleading statements of fact concerning the price and cost of their automobile insurance policies, as set forth above, in violation of NRS 598.0915(13) and otherwise knowingly made false representations in their communications with automobile insurance policyholders regarding the COVID-19 premium reduction described above.
- 106. In making its offer of premium reduction, USAA represented to its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders (implicitly, if not explicitly) that such offer is fair and reasonable, when in fact it is neither.
- 107. In making its offer of premium reduction, USAA concealed from its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders, or omitted to share with such policyholders, the inadequacy and unfairness of that offer. USAA engaged in such conduct with the intent that others rely upon such concealment and/or omission.
- 108. In making its offer of premium reduction, USAA expressly represented to its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders that it understood the "stress many members and their families are experiencing during these changing times" and that "USAA's commitment to the military community and supporting members." This was a misrepresentation of USAA's intent as the premium credit was only provided for three months even though Governor Sisolak's March 12, 2020 emergency declaration has been ongoing for 11 months, and may continue for several months.



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- 109. As a direct result of USAA's conduct, Plaintiff Hunter Cain, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, have been deprived of fair and adequate premiums as well as COVID-related premium reduction to which they are fairly and lawfully entitled.
- 110. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing and as a result of the breach by Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have sustained damages in an amount exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).
- 111. Defendant made intentional misrepresentations to its insureds and acted with conscious disregard to the rights of its insureds thus entitling Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, to an award of punitive damages.
- 112. It has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of counsel to represent him, and those similarly situation, to bring this action, and Plaintiff is entitled to recovery attorneys' fees and costs incurred herein.

### VIII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, pray for relief and damages as follows, that the court:

- A. Determine this action is a proper class action and appoint Plaintiff's representatives of the Class under Rule 23 of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure;
- B. Declare the parties' rights, duties, status, or other legal relations;
- C. Enter the judicial declarations sought by this complaint;
- D. Award compensatory damages to Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated, for USAA's wrongful conduct detailed above;
- E. Award punitive damages;
- F. Award to Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated, all attorneys' fees and costs; and

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G. Award such other and further reDATED this 23rd day of February,	elief as this Court deems just and appropriate.
EGLET ADAMS	MATTHEW L. SHARP, LTD.
ROBERT T. EGLET, ESQ.	/s/ Matthew L. Sharp MATTHEW L. SHARP, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 3402 CASSANDRA S.M. CUMMINGS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 11944

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Nevada Bar No. 4746