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                        UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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                       EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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                                      ) Case No. 2:23-CV-00376-TLN-DB
    The Original Sixteen to One
    Mine, Inc. a California
                                      ) Amended Complaint
    Corporation, Michael Miller,
    Hugh Dan O'Neill III, Robert
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    Besso, Jonathan Ferrell, Tom
    Woodfin, Keith Robertson,
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    Plaintiffs,
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    vs.
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    Quartzview, Inc. a California
    Corporation, Roger Haas, Simon
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    P. Westbrook, Douglas W.
    Charlton, and Charles
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    Crompton Jr., Does 1 through
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   10, inclusive.
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                      Defendants.
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   COME now plaintiffs and for claims for relief against defendants
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   and each of them alleges as follows:
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                            GENERAL ALLEGATIONS
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                           Jurisdiction and Venue
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         1. This Court has Federal Question Jurisdiction of this case
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   pursuant to 29 USC 1330, 15 USC 78aa, 15 USC § 78i(e), 15 USC §
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   78j(b), and 15 USC, § 78t and 15 USC § 78n.
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- 2. Plaintiffs request that this Court exercise Pendent
  2 Jurisdiction over all non-Federal Claims embraced by the operative
- 3. Venue is correct in the Eastern District of California
  inasmuch as the Mining property that Plaintiff the Original
  Sixteen to One Mine, Inc. is located in this district and
  Plaintiff conducts business in this district, much if not all of
  the acts and omissions alleged hereinafter occurred within this
  district, and the Defendant Quartzview, Inc. acts and conducts
  business within this district.
- 11 | Parties

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facts alleged hereinafter.

share of OSTO outstanding.

- 12 4. Plaintiff the Original Sixteen to One Mine, Inc. (hereinafter 1.3 OSTO is a California Corporation with a principal place of 14 business and doing business in Alleghany, Sierra County, 15 California and has been in existence for over 100 years. It is 16 the oldest operating gold mine in the United States. OSTO is 17 publicly traded, with holders of its securities resident in over 18 30 states and several foreign countries. There are 19 million, eight hundred seventy thousand and six hundred thirty-one
- 21 | 5. Plaintiff Michael Miller is a holder of the securities of
  22 | OSTO. Is a director and President of OSTO and an "elder" within
  23 | the meaning of Calif. Welf. & Inst. C. § 15610.27.
- 24 6. Hugh Dan O'Neill, III is a holder of a of the securities of 25 the securities of OSTO and a director and Secretary of OSTO and an

- 1 | "elder" within the meaning of Calif. Welf. & Inst. C. § 15610.27.
- $2 \parallel 7$ . Robert Besso is a holder of the securities of OSTO, a director
- 3 and treasurer of OSTO and an "elder" within the meaning of Calif.
- 4 | Welf. & Inst. C. § 15610.27.
- $5 \parallel 8$ . Tom Woodfin is a holder of the securities of OSTO and an
- 6 "elder" within the meaning of Calif. Welf. & Inst. C. § 15610.27.
- $7 \parallel 9$ . Keith Robertson is a holder of the securities of OSTO,
- 8 | and an "elder" within the meaning of Calif. Welf.
- 9 | & Inst. C. § 15610.27.109.
- 10  $\parallel$  10. Jonathan Ferrell is a holder of the securities of OSTO.
- 11 | 10. Quartzview Corporation is a California Corporation with a
- 12 principal place of business and doing business at Scotts Valley,
- 13 | Ca.
- 14  $\parallel$  11. Roger Haas is an individual resident in Scotts Valley,
- 15  $\parallel$  California, and a holder of the securities of Quartzview, Inc. and
- 16 | the Original Sixteen to One, Mine Inc. and purports to be
- 17 | President and director of Quartzview Corporation. The acts and
- 18 | 12. Simon P. Westbrook is an individual resident of Scotts Valley,
- 19 | California, and the agent for service of process of Quartzview
- 20 | Corporation and a director of Quartzview Corporation.
- 21  $\parallel$  13. Douglas W. Charlton purports to be a director, Chief
- 22 | Executive Officer and Secretary of OSTO. He is not and
- 23 | has merely wrongfully and fraudulently appropriated those offices
- 24 | and authority. Douglas W. Charlton maintains an address in
- 25 | Alleghany, Ca. Douglas W. Charlton authored the "confidential

report" described in paragraph 25. A. and authored the material in report without any factual basis to render the opinions contained in the report. The report was and the misstatements contained in the report were intentionally fraudulent or made with deliberate recklessness and intended to convince stockholders in sell their stock to Quartzview at an artificially depressed price to enable Quartzview to obtain control of the OSTO. 14. Charles Crompton Jr. purports to be a director of OSTO. In fact, he is not and has merely wrongfully and fraudulently appropriated that office and authority. Charles Crompton Jr. maintains an address in Alleghany, CA. Charles Crompton Jr. with knowledge of the scheme alleged in paragraphs 24, 25, and complaint aided elsewhere and abetted actions in this of Quartzview in carrying out the scheme by participating in the tender offer alleged in paragraph 30 and thereafter by calling and participating in the illegal, unauthorized and defective special shareholders meeting that voted to take control of the OSTO. 15. Plaintiffs are unsure of the true names or capacities of the defendants named herein as Does 1 through 10 inclusive who are controlling individuals within the meaning of 15 USC § 78t, otherwise caused or contributed to the wrongful acts or omissions alleged hereinafter, and for that reason sues said defendants by

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such fictitious names. Plaintiffs will amend this complaint to

reflect the true names and capacities when the same have been

ascertained.

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## Background Facts and General Allegations

3 16. At all times material and mentioned herein OSTO lawfully 4 adopted and maintained its Bylaws and strictly maintained its 5 organizational structure and activities in conformance therewith. 6 17. During 2011 Defendants represented to Plaintiff Miller and 7 OSTO that Quartzview, Inc. was developing "Deep Sensing" 8 technologies that would enable it to detect the presence of gold at a range of up to ten feet through solid quartz. Defendants 10 advised that the so-called "Deep Sensing" technology was in the 11 development stage and would need a test bed for the purposes of 12 creating an investment proposal to raise capital for further 1.3 development of their existing technology, and proposed that due to 14 its notoriety and proven value, the OSTO would be a suitable 15 location to test the developing technology and enhance 16 the attractiveness οf such an investment in the purported 17 proprietary technology of Quartzview. In fact, the vaunted "Deep 18 Sensing" technology did not exist but was actually vaporware and 19 only utilized commonly available mineral detection technology. The 20 only truth in the proposal was the belief of the Defendants in the 21 proven value of OSTO and their desire for it. 22 18. Defendants proposed to OSTO that Quartzview, Inc. test its 2.3 technology in the workings of the OSTO. OSTO was agreeable to that proposal so long as rigorous production schedules, confidentiality 24 25 and scope of project protocols be agreed upon.

19. On or about October 30, 2012 Quartzview and OSTO entered into 1 a License and Service Agreement in writing. A true and correct copy of such License and Service Agreement is attached hereto as 3 Exhibit "A". In addition, on or about the same date, Plaintiffs 4 5 insisted upon and the Parties entered into a further 6 Confidentiality Agreement, A true and correct copy of such 7 Confidentiality Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit "B". As an 8 inducement to enter into the agreements memorialized in Exhibits "A" and "B" Defendants invited Plaintiff OSTO to repose trust and 10 confidence in Quartzview and its management including Defendants 11 Haas and Westbrook. OSTO reasonably did and as a result, 12 special relationship existed between OSTO and Quartzview. 1.3 20. Thereafter and pursuant to the terms of exhibits "A" and "B" 14 Quartzview exercised its license to purportedly test the 15 effectiveness of its technology and to justify further funding of 16 Defendants' enterprise by investors, and to obtain confidential 17 and proprietary information concerning the workings and personnel of the OSTO for the purpose of taking over the ownership and 18 19 operations of OSTO. Defendants entered contracts into t.he 20 memorialized by Exhibits "A" and "B" with no intent of keeping the 21 information obtained by being allowed access to the workings and 22 records of OSTA but to use whatever information it obtained to 2.3 manipulate the stock of OSTO and to otherwise obtain control of 24 OSTO.

21. The technology and devices used by Quartzview failed to

1 locate any gold targets whatsoever at any time and none of the production schedules contained in exhibit "A" were met. 3 22. During the purported exercise of its license pursuant to exhibit "A" and contrary to the provisions of exhibits "A" and 4 5 "B", Defendants investigated and gathered information about and 6 concerning the management, ownership, financial condition, 7 strategic planning and personal information concerning employees 8 of and other proprietary and confidential information of and concerning OSTO and divulged and disclosed such confidential 10 information indiscriminately for the purpose and intent of 11 depressing the value of the securities of OSTO, replacing the 12 management of OSTO, gaining control of OSTO and convincing their 1.3 investors to continue to fund Quartzview. 14 23. At some time presently unknown to Plaintiffs, Defendants, 15 acting individually and not as the agent, servant or employee of 16 any corporate defendant did agree among themselves to a variety of 17 acts and omissions intended to manipulate through false and 18 misleading statements intended and calculated for the purpose of 19 depressing the value of the securities of OSTO, creating doubt and 20 distrust of the management of OSTO and to gain control of OSTO 21 thought such manipulation. Defendants committed the acts, 22 omissions and representation set forth hereinafter in pursuit to 2.3 said agreement. Defendants damaged Plaintiffs and continue to damage Plaintiffs in the manner and to the extent set forth 24 25 herein. The last act necessary to complete such conspiracy and

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agreement occurred on the occasion of the embezzlement of the bank account of OSTO as herein alleged.

24. Defendants engaged in a calculated series of statements, acts and omissions intended to cast the OSTO and its management in an unfavorable light, to depress the value of its stock and to further, their plan to take control of the OSTO. The statements, acts and representations were as follows:

The Manipulative Report. On 06/16/2016 Defendants Westbrook and Quartzview authorized and paid for the preparation and publication of a document authored by Defendant Charlton entitled "Preliminary Conditions Assessment 16 to 1 Mine". The document is conspicuously watermarked as "Strictly Confidential". The stated purpose of the document is to replace the control of "With the inferred low valuation of OSTO the attracting capital will be difficult. This means that exits for shareholders will be limited, and a future of declining share value is likely as Company assets are liquidated to pay for ongoing operating cost and increasing liabilities. Α of capitalization should be replacement of current Management with a team of technically and financially competent executives and specialists." The document purports to be an unbiased factually the OSTO, the Management of OSTO, based analysis of development strategy of OSTO, and an honest appraisal of the value of OSTO. It was none of those things. The report was nothing more than a slanderous hit piece designed and intended to depress the

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value of OSTO stock and disparage the management of OSTO. The document contains false, misleading, and manipulative statements calculated to influence the control of OSTO. The false statements made in the report were known to be false and untrue by Quartzview and Defendants Haas, Westbrook, Charlton, and others when the report was authored and published. In response to this report, management responded by refuting all of the representation contained. notation of confidentiality, Regardless of the Defendants and each of them gave the document to stockholders of OSTO for the intentional reckless or fraudulent intent of gaining control of OSTO. As a direct result Defendants did gain control of OSTO.

B. The Fraudulent Pollution Complaint. On or about 11/23/2016 in Sierra County, California Defendants Haas, Westbrook, Charlton and the other Defendants promised Joseph Sauer a former employee of OSTO that Defendants would employ him after they took control of OSTO if he would report to the Sierra County Sheriff alleging that a thousand gallons of waste oil was buried on the property of the OSTO. In fact, no such event occurred. Nonetheless, with the encouragement of Defendants Haas, Westbrook and Charlton; Joseph Sauer made The Sheriff of Sierra such a report. investigated the complaint but would not pursue the matter for a lack of evidence. Later on October 8, 2019, Defendants Haas, Westbrook, Charlton approached another former employee (and associate of the first) Aaron "Chico" Aquirre, who was again,

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promised compensation when Quartzview gained control of corporation if he also falsely reported that he had participated in the purported oil disposal. And he did. Based upon the former employees' testimony the District Attorney of Sierra County did file a criminal complaint which was dismissed for evidence. Nonetheless, Defendants intentionally for the purpose of gaining control of OSTO, publicized this complaint the and the general public. in OSTO The activity of Defendants Haas, Westbrook, and the other Defendants directly caused an investigation by the Sherriff of Sierra County the same day that geologists in the employ of performing due diligence research before consummating transaction with OSTO that would result in the injection of thirty (\$30,000,000) of non-debt working capital for million dollars The investigation prompted by the lies of Defendants Haas and Westbrook caused the due diligence effort to immediately terminate and caused the failure of the capital infusion. As a direct result Defendants did gain control of OSTO. C. The False Terrorist Threat. On or about 08/17/2018 Defendant Haas filed a false report with the Nevada County Sheriff that

Haas filed a false report with the Nevada County Sheriff that explosives had been stolen from the explosive magazine of OSTO. This was false and no action was taken, nonetheless, Defendants published this statement to the general public and to stock holders of OSTO to again disparage management and in furtherance of the plan to obtain control of OSTO. As a direct result

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Defendants did gain control of OSTO.

Charlton falsely represented to the California Central Valley Water Quality Control Board that the OSTO property contained toxic solid waste and Defendants owned the water rights. This was false and untrue and The Regional Water Quality Control Board took no action upon this report. Again, knowing of the falsity of the representation Defendants published this statement to the general public and the stockholders of OSTO an effort to gain control. The actions, statements representations of the Defendants caused the stockholders of OSTO to question the honesty, diligence and ability of the OSTO management all for the purpose of gaining control of OSTO. As a direct result Defendants did gain control of OSTO. E. The False Illegal Drugs and Firearms Report. On or about August 31, 2016, September 21, 2016, and December 16, 2016 Defendants Haas, Westbrook, and the other Defendants falsely represented to the United States Dept. of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration that OSTO was being operated in a hazardous manner. Specifically, some of the employees of the mine used drugs and carried firearms in the workings of the mine. These false representations were made by the Defendants for the purpose of gaining control of OSTO. No citation was issued by the Dept. of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration, but nonetheless,

D. The Fraudulent Toxic Waste Report. On August 31, 2016, and

September 21, 2016 Defendants Quartzview, Haas, Westbrook and

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Defendants used this incident to manipulate the stock and stockholders in OSTO to gain control of OSTO. These representations were intended to affect such manipulation or with conscious recklessness and without any regard for the truth of the statement made. As a direct result, Defendants did gain control of OSTO.

The False Insurance Fraud Report. On or about 08/21/2018 Defendants Haas, Westbrook and Charlton contacted the State of California Insurance fund and reported that OSTO had misrepresented The its employee census and engaged in fraudulent conduct. California Insurance Fund investigated the charge and found it to be untrue. Nonetheless, all Defendants represented to the general public and to the stockholders of OSTO that it was true as a part of Defendants' effort to manipulate the price of the stock of OSTO, reduce confidence in the management of OSTO, control of OSTO. These representations were intended to affect such manipulation or with conscious recklessness and without any regard for the truth of the statement made. As a direct result Defendants did gain control of OSTO

G. The Intelligence Gathering Scheme. On or about January 1, 2016 as part of the plan and conspiracy to gain control of OSTO and False Illegal Drugs, and Firearms Report, Defendant Haas and the other Defendants instructed the Quartzview employee William Brasier to secrete surveillance cameras and vehicle location devices in the workings of OSTO and in its vehicles in efforts to

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manufacture proof of unsafe working conditions or practices and the theft of valuable ore. This surveillance was not part of the operations agreed upon between OSTO and Quartzview but was part of the ongoing scheme to obtain control of the mine. The surveillance did not result in the discovery of any weapons or drug use but did disclose the location of Gold by OSTO employees, which was falsely represented to OSTO shareholders as theft by OSTO employees. As a direct result, Defendants did gain control of OSTO.

The Fraudulently Obtained Shareholder List. Defendant Haas demanded a list of the owners of the securities of OSTO and their addresses for the undisclosed purposes of communicating directly with shareholders of OSTO and misrepresenting facts and concerning the operations of OSTO and purported mismanagement. On February 25, 2019, Defendant Haas, Westbrook, Charlton and the other Defendants obtained an order of the Superior Court of Sierra County requiring that the management of OSTO provide information to Defendant Haas for his personal use and not for the use by Quartzview. Regardless of the order of the Court and the provisions of California Corporations Code § 1600(c) Defendants Haas, Westbrook and Charlton provided such confidential information to Quartzview and others as part of the intentional plan to manipulate the securities of OSTO to gain control of management.

25. Defendants made such representations to said boards and regulatory agencies, law enforcement, and to owners of the

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1 securities of OSCO to manipulate the market for OSTO, suppress the value of the outstanding shares, to depreciate the ability of management and gain control of OSTO. 3 As direct result, Defendants did gain control of OSTO. Haas and Defendant the other Defendants, their servants and employees, and suborned employees of OSTO have taken 6 7 and secreted valuable ore from the workings of OSTO for their own 8 purposes and converted the same to the use and benefit Quartzview and for the intentional purposes of misleading the 10 stockholders of OSTO as part of the scheme to obtain control. 11 27. The false and misleading statements and representations of 12 fact rather than opinion had the intended effect and depressed the 1.3 value of the securities of OSTO held by Plaintiffs and other 14 stockholders from ten dollars (US) per share to less than one 15 (US) per share on or about March 1, 2022. 16 representations of Haas, Westbrook, Sauer, and Aguirre instigated 17 false pollution complaint alleged in paragraph the 25. 18 interfered with the economic relationship that would have resulted 19 in the valuation of OSTO at ten dollars (\$10) per share. The acts 20 and omissions of Defendants have caused the stockholders of OSTO 21 to lose confidence in management's skill, ability, and honesty. 22 misrepresentations The false statements and have 2.3 stockholders of OSTO in the purported number of shares to agree to 24 sell their stock to Quartzview in response to the tender offer

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alleged in paragraph hereinafter and gain control of OSTO.

- 1 | 28. On or about 03/02/2021 Defendants Quartzview, Hass and Does 1
- 2 | through 10 published to the holders of the securities of OSTO a
- 3 | manipulative tender offer containing false, misleading and
- 4 | fraudulent material information of and concerning OSTO and its
- 5 management. A true and correct copy of the tender offer in
- 6 | attached hereto as
- 7  $\parallel$  exhibit "C".
- 8 | 29. The true facts concerning the false and misleading statements
- 9 | contained in the tender offer were:
- 10  $\|$ A. The management of OSTO operated the property in a
- 11 | reasonable and businesslike manner.
- 12 | B. No environmental or minimal issues existed.
- 13  $\parallel$ C. No discharge or minimal of toxic waste occurred under the
- 14 | direction and control of Management.
- 15  $\parallel$  D. No issues or minimal of air quality existed.
- 16 | E. Management operated the Mine Property consistent with
- 17 | the regulations promulgated by the United States Dept. of Labor
- 18 | Mine Safety and Health Administration.
- 19 | F. Management maintained a secure business environment and no
- 20 | theft of explosives had occurred.
- 21  $\parallel$ G. Other false, incomplete and manipulative statements
- 22 | calculated to gain control of OSTO.
- 23  $\parallel$  30. At the time and place said offer was made, Defendants and
- 24 | each of them knew that they did not have the funding to pay for
- 25  $\parallel$  the outstanding shares of OSTO, that they would not pay for the

shares of OSTO that were subject to acceptance of the tender offer 1 and that the tender offer was manipulative and based upon an ongoing campaign to disparage management and the value of OSTO. 3 31. Plaintiffs other than OSTO and numerous other owners of the 4 5 securities of OSTO accepted the offer made by Defendants. 6 32. Following the acceptance of the offer Defendants refused to 7 pay for the securities to Plaintiffs and at the same time asserted 8 in filings with the Security and Exchanges Commission of the The United States and to all other shareholders of the OSTO that 10 they owned all of the securities encompassed by the accepted 11 offers even though they had not consummated the transactions and 12 continue to make such representations. 1.3 33. On or about November 3, 2022, Defendants purported to hold a 14 a special meeting of the Stockholders of OSTO and at that meeting 15 purported to remove Plaintiffs Miller, and O'Neill as officers and 16 directors of the OSTO and to elect Douglas W. Charlton, and 17 Charles Crompton Jr. as officers and directors. 34. The said special meeting of the stockholders and all actions 18 19 taken at said meeting and pursuant to said meeting is and are 20 null, void and of no legal effect and without right or privilege: 21 The meeting was called by misrepresentation of the shares held by 22 those calling it, was called in violation of the rules governing 2.3 such meetings by the bylaws of OSTO, was called without a valid 24 quorum being present, was based upon misrepresentations of the

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conduct of management and the productivity of the OSTO and called

- 1 | through improper, unauthorized and wrongful means. In part
- 2 | Defendants made the following specific representations of and
- 3 concerning OSTO, and its management:
- $4 \parallel A$ . That OSTO not in compliance with the rules and regulations
- 5 of the United States Dept. of Labor Mine Safety and Health
- 6 | Administration. When the truth was that OSTO was in compliance
- 7 | with all pertinent rules and regulations;
- 8 | B. That Michael Miller was under investigation by the
- 9 United States Securities and Exchange Commission. When the truth
- 10 was that no such investigation existed.
- 11  $\parallel$  C. That the present Board of Directors had refused to provide
- 12  $\parallel$  information to the stockholders of OSTO. When the truth
- 13 | was that all pertinent information had been provided.
- 14  $\parallel$  D. That OSTO had transferred some of its properties to
- 15 Michael Miller for no consideration. When the truth is that no
- 16 | such gift had ever occurred.
- 17  $\parallel$ E. That management had stolen gold from OSTO.
- 18  $\parallel$ F. That management was responsible for rising water levels in
- 19 | the workings of OSTO.
- 20  $\parallel$ E. And other and further statements and omissions calculated
- 21 | to obtain control of OSTO.
- 22  $\parallel$  37. Following the improper usurpation of the management of the
- 23  $\parallel$  OSTO, Defendants caused the water pumps required to maintain water
- 24 | levels below production areas to become inoperative and thereby
- 25 | allowing water to rise and impinge upon valuable mining areas and

to operate the workings of OSTO to be further degraded and operated in an inefficient, un-miner like, and unprofessional manner to the degradation of the value of the OSTO and its outstanding shares

38. Following the improper usurpation of the management of the OSTO Defendants caused a false and fraudulent statement of information to be filed with the Secretary of State of California and thereafter used a copy of that filed statement to close the bank account of the OSTO, withdraw its funds, and convert them to their own use.

#### FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

# Manipulation of securities to gain control 15 U.S.C. § 78j., Rule 10b-5(a)(b)(c), 17 CFR § 240.

35. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in Paragraphs 17 through and including 38 and in particular:

Paragraph 25 A. (<u>The Manipulative Report</u>) was false and misleading in numerous material respects, including the representation that the value of the OSTO had dropped significantly during the past twenty years when less than four years previous to the report, Quartzview and the individual Defendants represented to OSTO that the value of the OSTO was so exceptional that the use of the Deep Sensing technology would further advantage the value of the mine when the Deep Sensing Technology added no value whatsoever. The report is concerned with citations issued to OSTO when in fact

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there were no workers compensation claims made for fifteen years. These representations were intentionally false and misleading and were made in connection with the Defendants' agreement and conspiracy to gain control of OSTO and rather than being "confidential" were distributed to all stockholders in connection with the tender offer made in 2021 with actual knowledge of the red flags evidenced by the refutation of the report, and with actual knowledge that the report itself was inconsistent with the Defendants' own representations to OSTO of the high value of the mine and its workings made only four years prior to the report distributed the report along with the tender offer made in 2021. Paragraph 25 B. (The Fraudulent Pollution Complaint). Defendants simply bribed a former employee with promises of future employment when Quartzview took over operation of the mine if the former employee would report the alleged dumping of pollutants upon the mine premises. The employee took the offer, reported the purported pollution, and after investigation law enforcement found nothing. Two years later Defendants again attempted to resurrect the Fraudulent Pollution Complaint with the assistance of another bribed employee but again no criminal convictions resulted. Regardless of the fact that no such pollution occurred, Defendant Haas, Westbrook, and other Defendants intentionally misrepresented the investigation to the shareholders of OSTO to obtain control of the Corporation.

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Paragraph 25. C) The False Terrorist Threat). Defendant Haas

reported to the Nevada County Sheriff's Department that explosives 1 had been stolen from the workings of OSTO, knowing full well that the OSTO mine was located in Sierra County, but that local news in 3 4 Nevada County, Ca. would disseminate the false report, which 5 occurred on or about that time. Defendants Haas, Westbrook and 6 Charlton made the false report as part of the scheme to 7 intentionally manipulate the stock of OSTO and thereby gain 8 control of the operations. The false report was disseminated widely and was repeated by Defendant Haas in numerous telephone 10 calls to stockholders. 11 Paragraph 25. D <u>The Fraudulent Toxic Waste Report</u>. Defendants 12 Quartzview, Haas, Westbrook and Charlton falsely reported to the 1.3 California Water Quality Control Board that OSTO had illegally 14 diverted waste into running water. The Board investigated this 15 claim and made no findings in that regard. Nonetheless, Haas and 16 the other Defendants informed the stockholders of OSTO that the 17 Board was contemplating enforcement actions and that monumental 18 fines were about to be assessed against OSTO. These 19 representations were false and intentionally made with the purpose 20 of undermining trust in the management of OSTO manipulating the 21 securities of OSTO and wresting control of the mine from the 22 current management. 2.3 Paragraph 25 E. The False Illegal Drugs and Firearms Report 24 Defendant Haas, Westbook, Charlton and the employees of

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Quartzview filed several complaints against OSTO with the Federal

Mine Safety and Health Administration falsely accusing the management of OSTO and its employees of using unlawful drugs and carrying firearms underground in an unsafe manner. The agency investigated and found no facts to substantiate such charge. Regardless of the no action position taken by the agency Defendants Haas, Westbrook, and other Defendants continuously recited these charges to the shareholders of OSTO knowing that they were untrue with the intent to manipulate the securities of OSTO and gain control of the corporation. Paragraph 25 F. The False Insurance Fraud Report The California State Insurance Fund found no basis for a finding that OSTO had understated its census and took no action on the charge. Regardless of the no action position taken by the agency Defendants Haas, Westbrook, Charlton and other Defendants continuously recited these charges to the shareholders of OSTO knowing that they were untrue with the intent to manipulate the securities of OSTO and gain control of the corporation. Paragraph 25 G. The Intelligence Gathering Scheme. At the direction and instruction of Defendants Haas, Westbrook and Charlton and with the knowledge and encouragement of the management and board of Quartzview the Quartzview employee who was originally tasked with the effort of using the Quartzview "Deep Sensing Technology" to locate gold-bearing ore was instructed to place hidden cameras throughout the working of the Mine to gather purported evidence of unsafe mining practices, drug use, and the

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theft of valuable ore. No such evidence was found and when the employee left his position with Quartzview he asked an employee of OSTO to retrieve the hidden cameras. No inappropriate activity was discovered, but Defendants Haas, Charlton and Westbrook intentionally or recklessly made false and fraudulent statements to MSHA regardless of that fact, for the purpose of manipulating the securities of OSTO and obtaining control of the Corporation Paragraph 25 H. The Fraudulently Obtained Shareholder List As part of the scheme to gain control of the OSTO mine, Defendants Haas, Westbrook, Charlton and the other individual Defendants and Quartzview used the Judicial Process of the California State Court for Sierra County to obtain a shareholder list. The Court admonished that the list was personal to Defendant Haas and was not to be provided to Quartzview. Knowing full well providing the list to Quartzview was forbidden by Court Order and to obtain enough of OSTO securities to control the Corporation, Defendant Haas did exactly that and Quartzview then contacted numerous stockholders directly and represented as true facts the misrepresentations specified in the matters alleged in this paragraph 35 intentionally or recklessly for the purpose of manipulating the stock of OSTO and gaining control. 36. The activities, representation of facts known by Defendants to be untrue, suborning of employees and the acts and omissions of the Defendants and each of them constituted a trick or device and manipulative acts to gain control of OSTO.

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37. The misrepresentations and activities of Quartzview, Haas, Westbrook, Charlton, and others manipulated the price of the stock of OSTO and directly and proximately caused Quartzview to purportedly obtain a controlling interest in OSTO and to remove management as alleged.

## SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

False and Misleading Statements in Connection with a Tender Offer

- 38. Plaintiff incorporates by the reference the allegations of Paragraph 35.
- 38. The tender offer made to the shareholders of OSTO in writing on 03/02/2021 was preceded by the activities of the Defendants as alleged in Paragraphs 25 A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H and 35 were made by the Defendants intentionally, recklessly and negligently for the purpose of building a wall of suspicion, mistrust and divisiveness between the stockholders of OSTO and the management of OSTO for the intent of manipulating the stock of OSTO to bring about a change in corporate control and to pre-condition the stockholders for the manipulative Tender Offer Made 03/02/2021 (Ex. "C") and prior to the presentation of the Ex. C did not retract, clarify, or make any of the statements made supplemented with any information that would make the representations accurate when the Tender Offer was made. The tender offer and Manipulative Report that accompanied the Tender Offer directly caused Plaintiffs injury, damage, and economic losses as alleged hereinafter.

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39. The Tender Offer itself was accompanied by the Manipulative Report (Paragraph 25 A). Defendants negligently or willfully recklessly did not disclaim any part of the report or offer any information that would clarify the false and misleading statement contained in the report.

40. The Tender Offer itself negligently and willfully recklessly misrepresented that Quartzview had found gold in the mine, but did not disclose that the gold that was found was not found using the Quartzview "Deep Sensing" technology but was found and located by the employees of OSTO utilizing traditional mining practices.

41. The Tender Offer itself references "many troubling things about how the mine was operated and the challenges it faces" without explaining that the "troubling things" were the items that were actually created by the Defendants as alleged in paragraph 25 and did not in reality exist. Defendants negligently and willfully recklessly failed to clarify or retract those "troubling things" or otherwise make the statement truthful.

42. The Tender Offer continues to negligently and willfully recklessly accuse the current Board of Directors on not addressing the issues that Defendants claim to be "troubling things" or "challenges it faces" without specifying the things or challenges and without itemizing the responses the current Board made to the "troubling things" or "challenges". In fact, no such issues existed and all claims of issue were forthrightly discussed and resolved by the Board.

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43. Quartzview says in its Tender Offer that it cannot continue to operate under the "current management regime". What it negligently and willfully recklessly did not say is that it was in breach of the license and service agreement (Ex A) and the confidentiality agreement (Ex B) and had no right to continue to operate in the mine.

44. The Tender offer negligently and willfully recklessly represented as a fact and not an opinion, that OSTO and its management did not have the ability to operate the mine in a profitable manner while negligently and willfully recklessly failing to disclose that a significant part of the effort of management had been reducing the water levels in the mine to areas that had not been prospected or mined; that Defendants Haas, Westbrook and Charlton and Quartzview employee William Brashear and former Director Doug Lockie had been frequent visitors to the mine, its surface, underground workings, and had full access to its books and record and had ample opportunity to know all of the true facts concerning the mine, and its management, and that Defendants Quartzview, Haas and Westbrook and the other Defendants had directly interfered with an economic relationship that would have resulted in a price per share at the time of the tender offer of ten dollars.

45. The Tender offer negligently and willfully recklessly represented as a fact by Defendants Haas, Westbrook, and Charlton and Quartzview employee William Brashear and former Director Doug

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1 Lockie who had been frequent visitors to the mine, its surface, underground workings, and had full access to its books and record and had ample opportunity to know all of the true facts concerning 3 4 the mine, and its management, with full knowledge of the 5 dewatering program of the mine and the discharge of mine water, 6 that no pollution of surface water had occurred; that a 7 significant penalty could be assessed by the California Water 8 Quality Control Board, without explaining that the proceeding was instigated by Defendants (see, Paragraph 25 D) and that the matter 10 had been resolved without any fine whatsoever. 11 46. Finally the Tender offer negligently and willfully recklessly 12 represented as a fact that Quartzview would pay the shareholders 1.3 \$.20 per share. This is a material fact of the transaction. But 14 the Tender Offer negligently and willfully recklessly did not 15 state when (if ever) that payment would be made. Defendants Haas, 16 Westbrook, and Charlton knew that there were insufficient funds 17 from Quartzview that would be available to pay the stockholders of 18 OSTO for the purchase of their stock. In fact, for most of the 19 shareholders who accepted the offer, payment was never made. 20 Essentially Defendants represented that \$ .20 per share was a 21 reasonable valuation for the sale when in fact by not agreeing to 22 actually pay the \$.20 per share, Defendants had really offered 2.3 nothing per share.

47. As part of the negotiation with shareholders Quartzview promises to pay all selling shareholders in the same manner and at

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- the same time, this statement and promise was negligent and careless in that most of the selling shareholders would not be paid. This was a material misrepresentation to all the shareholders.
  - 41. The statements and omission to disclose alleged were in violation of the Security and Exchange act of 1934,  $\S$  14(e).
- 7 42. The representations and omissions alleged were made with 8 knowledge of the materiality of the representations and omissions or negligently and carelessly.
- 43. Plaintiffs and other shareholders have been damaged in the amount of the difference between the fair market value of the shares at ten dollars per share and twenty cents per share or nothing per share through the false and misleading statements and manipulative actions of Defendants and prejudgment interest from ten dollars per share to twenty cents per share.

#### THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## Declaratory Relief

- 44.An actual and existing dispute now exists between Plaintiffs and Defendants in that Plaintiffs contend that:
- A. Defendants manipulated the market for the securities of OSTO to gain control of OSTO.
- B. Defendants activity in manipulating the stock of OSTO caused the value of its stock to be depreciated over time.
- C. But for Defendants manipulative activity the Stock of OSTO would have traded at or about ten dollars (US) (\$10) per

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- 1 share as of May 1, 2019. D. Defendants did not fully compensate the
- 2 | individual
- 3 | Plaintiffs for the stock in OSTO that they purportedly purchased
- 4 | from the individual Plaintiffs.
- $5 \parallel E$ . The stock transactions recited between Defendants and
- 6 | holders of the securities in OSTO as recited in all Amended
- 7 | Schedules 13D filed by Defendant Quartzview with the Security and
- 8 | Exchange Commission on or about January and February 2022 fail to
- 9 disclose that the transferee(s) were not fully compensated or not
- 10 | compensated at all for the stock reported as beneficially owned or
- 11 | controlled.
- 12 | F. Defendants do not hold or control sufficient shares of
- 13 | the stock of OSTO to call for a special meeting of the share-
- 14 | holders and have never held or controlled a sufficient number of
- 15 | shares to do so.
- 16  $\parallel$ G. All activities undertaken by Defendants and each of them
- 17 | purporting exercise corporate governance or control of OSTO are
- 18 | null, void and of no effect.
- 19 H. The removal of Plaintiffs as officers and directors of
- 20 OSTO and the replacement with Defendants as officers and directors
- 21 was null, void and of no effect and that Plaintiffs continue to
- 22 constitute the only lawful board, officers and governance of OSTO.
- 23  $\parallel$  45. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that Defendants and each
- 24 of them dispute such contentions.
- 25  $\parallel$  46. It is appropriate for the Court to make its declaratory

judgment of the rights and obligation of the parties in the premises to avoid a multiplicity of litigation.

47. Plaintiffs desire such a declaration.

FORTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Violation of California Corporations Code §§ 25400-25304

48. Defendants Haas and Quartzview made the representation

knowing that they were false and with the intention of depressing

the price that shares of OSTO were traded. As a direct and

proximate result of those representations some of the holders of

the stock of OSTO was convinced that the price would be depressed

and fall lower in reaction to the representations and acts

alleged. They then agreed to sell their shares for the offered

price of one dollar (US) per share.

49. The individual defendants have been damaged in the amount of nine dollars (US) per share owned or as according to proof.

#### FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## Breach of Contract

Breach of Contract by OSTO against Quartzview

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- 50. On a date unknown to Plaintiff at present but continuing to the present Quartzview, Inc. breached its contract with OSTO in the following respects;
- A. By disclosing to third persons proprietary information belonging to OSTO;
- B. By disparaging the business operations of OSTO;

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1	C. By falsely reportion violations of law and administrative
2	regulations to various governmental agencies and
3	subdivisions;
4	D. By suborning employees of OSTO to act against the
5	interests of OSTO and to secrete and operate surveillance cameras;
6	E. And disrupting the business operations of OSTO by
7	constantly and falsely publishing false and damaging statements of
8	and concerning the management of OSTO and by otherwise mismanaging
9	the affairs of OSOT.
10	51. OSTO has been damaged in the minimum sum of one hundred
11	twenty-five million dollars.
12	SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
13	Breach of Contract
14	52. By failing and refusing to pay for the stock of
15	Plaintiffs in OSTO Defendants have breached the accepted tender
16	offers damaging Plaintiffs and other stock-holders in the amount
17	agreed upon. Plaintiffs have been damaged according to proof
18	Recission of Sale
19	53. There has been a complete failure of consideration for the
20	sale of the Stock of Plaintiffs and other stock-holders and
21	accordingly, Plaintiffs are entitled to rescind the sale of stock
22	and offers to tender any fund actually paid, less the damage
23	Defendants have caused to said Plaintiffs and otherwise do equity.
24	SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Breach of Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing

## Against Quartzview and Haas

- 54. A Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing was implied by and between Quartzview and OSTO pursuant to Exhibits "A" and "B".
- 55. The acts and omissions alleged in Paragraphs 16 through 43 constituted a breach of the Covenant of Good Faith and Fair
- Dealing and a Breach of the Fiduciary Duties owed to OSTO by

  Quartzview that arose through the special relationship that
- 9 56. Plaintiff OSTO has been generally damaged in the amount of one

#### EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## Inducing Breach of Contract

- 13 | 57. Defendants Haas, Westbrook, Charlton, and Does 1 through 10 had actual knowledge of the contractual relationship between 15 | Ouartzview and OSTO.
- 16 | 58. Defendants Haas, Westbrook, Charlton and Does 1 through 10 intentionally induced Quartzview to perform the acts and omissions alleged herein and to breach its obligations to OSTO.
- 19 59. Defendants Haas, Westbrook, Charlton and Does 1 though 10
  20 were without any right or privilege to induce Quartzview to breach
  21 its contractual obligations to OSTO but did so in pursuit of the
  22 conspiracy and scheme to talk control of OSTO.
  - 60. Defendants Haas, Westbrook, Charlton, and Does 1 through 10 aided and abetted each other in the act of inducing Quartzview to breach its contractual obligations to OSTO by performing the acts

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existed between the two.

hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000.)

- and omissions of the individuals alleged herein.
- 2 61. OSTO has been generally damaged in the amount of one hundred
- 3 | and twenty-five million dollars (\$125,000,000.)
- $4 \parallel 62$ . OSTO has been otherwise specially damaged according to proof.
- $5 \parallel 63$ . The acts and omissions of the Defendants Haas, Westbrook,
- 6 | Charlton, and Does 1 though 10 were intentional and committed with
- 7 | actual or implied malice and accordingly Plaintiff is entitled to
- 8 | additional damages by way of example.

## NINTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## Elder Financial Abuse

- 11 | 64. In perpetrating the acts and omissions alleged herein
- 12  $\parallel$  Defendants engaged in Elder Financial Abuse as defined by Calif.
- 13 | Welf. & Inst. Code. § 15610.30(a), Defendants and each of then
- 14 | knew or should have known that the afore-alleged conduct that
- 15 | their conduct would be harmful to the individual Plaintiff who are
- 16 | Elders as alleged and other stock-holders.
- 17  $\parallel$  65. The individual Plaintiffs and other stock-holders who are
- 18 | Elders within the meaning of Calif. Welf. & Inst. C. § 15610.27
- 19 | has been damaged as alleged.

## TENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## Theft (Calif. Pen Code § 484)

- 22 | 66. The actions of Defendants in purposing to gain control of
- 23 OSTO, in removing and keeping valuable ore and embezzling the
- 24 | funds of OSTO amount to theft as is defined by Calif. Pen Code §
- 25  $\parallel$  67. Plaintiffs are entitled to their damages trebled and THEIR

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attorney fees.

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ELEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Unfair Competition (Calif. Bus. & Prof Code. §17200) 4 68. The acts and omissions of Defendants and each of them 5 constitute economic damage to all Plaintiffs. 69. The acts and omissions of Defendants and each of them are in 7 violation of Calif. Bus. &. Prof. Code. § 17200 in that they are

Prof. Code. § 17500.

70. It is appropriate for the Court to enjoin and restrain Defendants and each of them from exercising any corporate authority or power relating to OSTO, to engage in any further market manipulation of the securities of OSTO, to remove any ore from the premises or works of OSTO, from making any further disparaging remarks of or concerning the management of OSTO or from taking any further action damaging, or depreciating the value of the OSTO.

false, deceptive and unfair and in violation of Calif. Bus. &.

- 71. It is further appropriate for the Court to order Defendants and each of them to account for all rents, issues and profits of the OSTO in their possession or transferred to any other person including any stockholder of Quartzview.
- 22 72. It is further appropriate for the Court to assess a Civil 2.3 Penalty against Defendants and each of them.
- 24 73. It is further appropriate that the Court assess Plaintiffs' 25 attorney fees as damages and costs from Defendants.

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- 1 | WHEREFORE Plaintiffs pray Judgment against Defendants and
- 2 | Each of them as follows:
- $3 \parallel 1$ . For General Damages to Plaintiff the Original Sixteen to One
- 4 | Mine, Inc. in the amount of one hundred twenty-five million
- 5 | dollars (\$125,000,000.)
- 6 2. For general damages for the domination of the value of the
- 7 stock of the individual Plaintiffs in the amount of not less than
- 8 Inine dollars (\$9,00) per share.
- 9  $\parallel$  3. For a declaration of this Court that:
- 10 A. Defendants manipulated the market for the securities of OSTO
- 11 | to gain control of OSTO.
- 12 | B. Defendants activity in manipulating the stock of OSTO
- 13  $\parallel$  caused the value of its stock to be depreciated over time.
- 14  $\parallel$  C. But for Defendants manipulative activity the Stock of
- 15  $\parallel$  OSTO would have traded at or about ten dollars (US) (\$10) per
- 16 | share as of May 1, 2019.
- 17 | D. Defendants did not fully compensate the individual
- 18 | Plaintiffs for the stock in OSTO that they purportedly purchased
- 19 | from the individual Plaintiffs.
- 20 | E. The stock transactions recited between Defendants and
- 21  $\parallel$  holders of the securities in OSTO as recited in all Amended
- 22 | Schedules 13D filed by Defendant Quartzview with the Securities
- 23 | and Exchange Commission fail to disclose that the transferee(s)
- 24  $\parallel$  were not fully compensated for the stock reported.
- 25  $\parallel$  F. Defendants do not hold or control sufficient share of

the stock of OSTO to call for a special meeting of the shareholders and have never held or controlled a sufficient number of
shares to do so.

- G. All activities undertaken by Defendants and each of them purporting exercise corporate governance or control of OSTO are null, void and of no effect. H. The removal of Plaintiffs as officers and directors of OSTO and the replacement with Defendants as officers and directors was null, void and of no effect and that Plaintiffs continue to constitute the only lawful board, officers and governance of OSTO.
- 4. That the Court enjoin and restrain Defendants and each of them, their agents, servants and all persons acting in concert with them from performing or engaging in all of the following: From exercising any corporate authority or power relating to OSTO, to engage in any further market manipulation of the securities of OSTO, to remove any ore from the premises or works of OSTO, from making any further disparaging remarks of or concerning the management of OSTO or from taking any further action damaging, or depreciating the value of the OSTO.
- 5. For the Court to order Defendants and each of them to account for all rents, issues and profits of the OSTO in their possession or transferred to any other person including any stock-holder of Quartzview.
- $\parallel$  6. That Plaintiffs' damages be trebled.
  - $\parallel$ 7. For Court to assess a Civil Penalty against Defendants and

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1	each of them.
2	8. For reasonable Attorney fees.
3	9. For Costs of Suit; and,
4	10. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and
5	proper.
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7	DATED:4/30/2024 /s/ John Vodonick, Ph.D. John Vodonick, Ph.D.
8	Attorney for Plaintiffs
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