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13	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
14	FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES			
15				
16	CREATIVE ARTISTS AGENCY, LLC;	CASE NO.: 248M CV 04697		
17	Plaintiff,	PLAINTIFF CREATIVE ARTISTS AGENCY, LLC'S COMPLAINT		
18	VS.	AGAINST DEFENDANT RANGE MEDIA PARTNERS, LLC		
19	RANGE MEDIA PARTNERS, LLC, a limited liability company and DOES 1-50;			
20	Defendants.	1. Violation of California Business and Professions Code Section 17200		
21		2. Aiding and Abetting Breach of Fiduciary Duty		
22 23		3. Tortious Interference with Contractual Relations		
24		4. Tortious Interference with Prospective		
25		Economic Advantage		
26		DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL		
27				
28				

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Creative Artists Agency, LLC ("CAA"), by and through its attorneys, demands a jury trial on all causes of action stated herein against Range Media Partners, LLC ("Range") and DOES 1 through 100 (collectively, "Defendants"), and alleges as follows on the basis of its personal knowledge as well as information and belief:

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Range is an unlicensed talent agency built on deceit. Seeking a shortcut to success, Range's initial founder, Peter Micelli (a former CAA literary agent and CAA member), found four highly-paid CAA leaders to act as his accomplices: posing as loyal CAA members, sitting shoulder to shoulder in confidential CAA meetings about clients and business, all while covertly working to benefit Range and themselves, and to harm CAA.
- Micelli, who left CAA in 2018, founded Range in early 2020. Over the course of 2020, Micelli and those four CAA members—Jack Whigham, David Bugliari, Michael Cooper, and Mick Sullivan (collectively, the "Accomplices")—carried out a scheme designed to give Range an unlawful competitive edge. Specifically, Micelli and the Accomplices sought to benefit Range by breaching their obligations to CAA and causing other CAA employees to do the same.
- 3. Range's founders publicly announced its launch in August 2020. However, in truth, by August 2020, Micelli and the Accomplices (the "Range Founders") had spent months stealing Confidential Information (as defined in this Complaint) from CAA for Range's benefit.
- 4. The Accomplices, working in concert with Micelli, induced other CAA employees—who the Range Founders knew were bound by confidentiality and loyalty obligations to CAA—to assist in stealing CAA's Confidential Information. The Range Founders understood they were engaging in misconduct and tried to cover their tracks to avoid getting caught: urging more junior CAA employees to download encrypted messaging apps to avoid CAA detecting their communications, and directing CAA employees to export Confidential Information for delivery to certain of the Accomplices' personal email accounts and cellphones. The Accomplices did all this while still working as senior CAA leaders and talent agents.
- 5. What is Range then, and why did the Accomplices betray CAA for Range's benefit? Put simply, Range's business model is the pursuit of unlawful profit through deception:

County Superior Court Case No. 24SMCP00411).

- 8. The Range February 2020 Planning Email—transmitted six months before the Accomplices admitted they were acting for Range—shows that, as Range came into the market, it chose to not be restrained by law, talent guilds, or ethical boundaries. During most of 2020 and beyond, Range clearly crossed those lines.
- 9. In addition to acting as unlicensed talent agents, Range and the Accomplices engaged in a series of unlawful acts in violation of California Business and Professions Code Section 17200 ("Section 17200") and other legal obligations, including:
 - wrongfully obtaining and using CAA's confidential client and business
 information: while still working for CAA in senior management roles, certain of
 the Accomplices transmitted CAA's Confidential Information from CAA's
 systems to their personal email accounts and devices to benefit Range;
 - inducing others to violate their contracts with CAA: some of the Accomplices pressed at least three then-CAA employees (collectively, the "Solicited Employees")—who in some cases, then pressed others—to secure for Range's benefit CAA's Confidential Information (including lists of CAA client meetings, CAA client activity reports, CAA client offer letters, scripts that were provided to CAA for its clients to read, grids,² and other highly confidential information relating to CAA's clients, including non-public information relating to their representatives, publicists, and assistants);
 - rewarding the Solicited Employees who violated their CAA contracts by
 providing CAA's Confidential Information to Range, by hiring and quickly
 promoting two of the Solicited Employees from assistants to managers after they
 joined Range;
 - actively soliciting CAA clients to leave CAA, while the Accomplices were still working for CAA and owed CAA a duty of loyalty;

² A grid is a tracking list which would typically include the following information: all client meetings (with producers, directors, etc.); project submissions; projects CAA was aware of that could potentially be right for a specific client; scripts sent to a client; and offers accepted or denied by a client.

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limited liability company is a citizen of every state of which its owners/members are citizens, not the state in which it was formed or does business.") (citation omitted).

- 21. Further, this action claims injury within California, because Range improperly solicited CAA employees to steal Confidential Information in California, including at CAA's Los Angeles, California office, and to engage in various other misconduct in Los Angeles and elsewhere in California.
- 22. The statute of limitations for the claims asserted herein was tolled from at least April 6, 2020 to October 1, 2020 as a result of Executive Order No. 38-20 and Judicial Council Emergency Order 9, as modified.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

I. <u>CAA'S BUSINESS: SERVING CLIENTS ABOVE ALL</u>

- 23. Since 1975³, CAA has continued to deliver on its promise—clients above all. At CAA, every client is represented by the whole of the agency in connection with the marketing of their services and properties, and with the development of their careers. As a result, it is one of the world's leading talent agencies.
- 24. CAA is licensed as a talent agency by the State of California. And as talent agents, CAA agents act as fiduciaries for their clients. CAA has spent years developing and maintaining its client relationships and learning its clients' specific needs and preferences. Inherent in each of these client-agent relationships is the probability of future and continued economic benefit to CAA as a result of its clients' successes. As a result of CAA's significant investment in its client relationships, its successful representations tend to be long lasting, and turnover is relatively low.
- 25. Clients entrust their CAA agents with sensitive information: their desired career path, preferred collaborators, negotiation preference, understanding of abilities (strengths and weakness), risk tolerance, financial information, personal details relevant to their career aspirations, and sometimes, even medical information (collectively, "client confidential information"). This client confidential information is immeasurably valuable to competitors who

³ CAA, Inc. was originally founded in 1975. CAA, its subsequent iteration, was founded in 1995.

could use it to understand the particular nuanced needs, motivations, and negotiating tactics of CAA's clients. Thus, not only are CAA agents required to provide representation; they also must safeguard and protect client confidential information, both as fiduciaries looking to protect their clients' interests and as employees of CAA looking to maintain valuable non-public business information.

- 26. CAA has invested resources, time, and effort in developing extensive information about its clients and its business, including information concerning: key entertainment industry relationships, relevant development, production, investment, sponsorship, branding and other valuable marketing opportunities, data analytics tools (developed using CAA confidential business information), business plans, talent planning and other business information that provides CAA with a competitive advantage and value (collectively, "Confidential Information"). CAA's Confidential Information, which includes its client confidential information, was and is accumulated through enormous effort and expense. CAA's Confidential Information is valuable to competitors who could use it to understand and analyze CAA's business focus, investments, opportunities, developed tools, as well as the opportunities, needs, or negotiation positions related to CAA clients.
- 27. Confidential Information is subject to stringent security measures to preserve the secrecy of such information. This is particularly important in light of the considerable investment CAA has made in developing and curating its competitively valuable Confidential Information. For example, CAA has and, at all times relevant to this matter, had written policies and procedures governing its information technology and the security of CAA information. CAA also restricts access to Confidential Information and stores its Confidential Information electronically in a secure network system.
- 28. All CAA computers are protected from unauthorized access with individual usernames and passwords, and CAA utilizes dual factor authentication for logins from new devices. All CAA electronic applications require user authentication and have a session timeout mechanism in place. CAA's policies and procedures relate to computer controls, data access, IT disaster recovery, network security, user setup procedures, password administration and

management, data backup and recovery, security audits, security breach investigations, email best practices, and mobile device security. These mechanisms were designed to protect CAA's clients and its business.

29. CAA leaders, including the Accomplices, and CAA employees are bound by strict Confidentiality Agreements and their obligations as fiduciaries to protect CAA's Confidential Information. As further detailed herein, the Accomplices, in concert with Micelli, breached those agreements and obligations when, as detailed below, they stole CAA's Confidential Information for the benefit of Range, in furtherance of the Range Founders' scheme to operate Range as an unlicensed talent agency.

II. RANGE WAS FOUNDED AS A "MANAGEMENT COMPANY" TO EVADE ANTI-EXPLOITATION LAWS

A. The TAA Protects Talent

- 30. Talent is protected in California by an extensive network of rules governing "talent agencies." The net result of these protections is that agents must serve the best interests of their clients, or face grave professional and financial consequences. Range organized a scheme to improperly evade this regulatory framework, while stealing from and damaging CAA.
- 31. First, talent agents owe fiduciary duties to their clients, binding agents to strictly act for their client's benefit. See Restatement (Third) of Agency § 1.01; see also Huong Que, Inc. v. Luu, 150 Cal. App. 4th 400, 411 (2007) ("[T]he agent assumes 'a fiduciary duty to act loyally for the principal's benefit in all matters connected with the agency relationship."") (citation omitted). If a talent agent fails to abide by their fiduciary duties, clients can sue them for breach and recover damages. See Marathon Ent., Inc. v. Blasi, 42 Cal. 4th 974, 994 (2008).
- 32. Second, talent agents are subject to the TAA. Cal. Lab. Code § 1700, et seq. The TAA imposes strict duties and limitations on talent agents, to ensure they are serving the interests of their clients. The main focus of the TAA is to avoid artists being exploited by their management.
- 33. The trigger for application of the TAA is when a party works to "procure employment" for artists. Specifically, under the TAA, "[t]alent agency' means a person or

agencies. But the Range Partner bypassed those "technical" requirements without hesitation,

suggesting that managers acting as talent agents would be fine so long as they could avoid public lawsuits. He wrote: "as long as the artist doesn't sue the manager . . . looks like managers are fine?"

53. And that is the core of how Range was formed: an inescapable conclusion—managers must be licensed as agents or "refrain from procuring" employment for artists—with an indefensible business model—one that survives only if the artist "doesn't sue."

III. RANGE STOLE CONFIDENTIAL CAA CLIENT AND BUSINESS INFORMATION

- 54. Shortly after its creation in early 2020, Range looked for additional shortcuts to obtain unlawful advantages in the talent agency market. Range and Micelli would need others who would agree to violate their legal duties (those of loyalty and confidentiality in particular) and to try to persuade others to do so.
- 55. In mid-2020, Range, with Micelli at the helm, obtained private funding from Steve Cohen, the billionaire owner of the New York Mets. ⁴ With millions in funding and pressure to show quick results, Micelli turned to his scheme to identify CAA members—including the Accomplices—willing to join him and to take some of CAA's Confidential Information on their way out of the building.
- 56. The Accomplices also planned to *personally* benefit from the charade that Range was a management company. But for CAA cancelling their equity, after they left CAA, the Accomplices would have received money from both CAA and Range.
- 57. Under their membership agreements with CAA, former members would typically be eligible to receive monies from time to time after leaving the agency so long as they did not act to harm CAA. The Accomplices and Micelli clearly organized their scheme to enable all of them to continue to hold CAA equity after joining Range in August 2020, all under the guise of working with Range as a mere "management company." But for CAA cancelling the Accomplices' equity, the foundational lie of Range—that it is not acting as a talent agency—

⁴ In August 2020, Jones Day (a law firm) issued a press release touting that, in the months prior, it assisted Range with its "angel funding" round. <u>Range Media Partners raises initial capital for company | Experience | Jones Day (last visited September 26, 2024).</u>

would have been used to enrich its members, to the detriment of CAA.

A. Range Knew The Accomplices Were Bound By Strict Confidentiality Agreements With CAA

- 58. Range, through Micelli, was aware that the Accomplices had strict contractual confidentiality obligations. Micelli himself was once bound by those same obligations.
- 59. Micelli touts through his LinkedIn profile, that from 1995 to 2018, he was a CAA literary agent. Toward the end of his CAA career, Micelli was a co-head of CAA's Television Department. By the end of his tenure at CAA, he was a CAA member.
- 60. Just like Micelli, while serving CAA, the Accomplices occupied special positions of trust and confidence, with in-depth knowledge of and access to the heart of CAA's business. This knowledge included confidential and sensitive information concerning CAA's clients, unique business strategies, booking data, business and legal negotiations with and for clients, client revenues, client lists, and the preferences, needs, interests, and upcoming projects of CAA's clients.
- 61. Because of their senior status in the company and their role in overseeing, assigning, and transferring agents across CAA's clients, they also had access and knowledge about which CAA agents had strong relationships with which CAA clients, as well as personnel performance. There is no identifiable source or collection of sources from which a competitor could gather this information on its own for each client.
- 62. Because of their access to such highly confidential and proprietary information, the Accomplices signed several agreements designed to protect CAA clients, CAA, and CAA's Confidential Information. Micelli also signed such agreements.
- 63. For example, the Range Founders agreed to maintain CAA's "Confidential Information," as it was defined under the agreements each signed upon becoming a CAA member. One such agreement states that Confidential Information includes information that is not known by unrelated parties outside the Company regarding "the Company's client lists and profiles, buyer and client preferences and interests, [and] the Company's film, television, music and new media information."

- 64. Through these agreements, the Range Founders also acknowledged the value and need for CAA to share among CAA members its sensitive and confidential CAA client and company information. They agreed: "[d]isclosure of Confidential Information to the [CAA] Members allows the Company to enhance its collaborative culture to better serve its clients, to train new agents, to transfer clients among agents, to further the Company's reputation in the community and, as a result of these benefits, to increase the amount of the Company's revenues and the Members' compensation." These objectives "can be achieved only if the Members have complete confidence that no Member will use or disclose any Confidential Information, either during his or her membership with the Company or at any time thereafter, for his or her personal benefit rather than for the collective benefit of the Company and the Members."
- 65. In short, Range, Micelli, and the Accomplices were fully aware the Accomplices had these confidentiality obligations. Thus, when soliciting CAA's Confidential Information, Range, Micelli, and the Accomplices knew of the Accomplices' confidentiality obligations and chose to ignore the existence of such restrictions.

B. Range And Others Induced CAA Employees To Violate Their Obligations To Keep CAA Client And Company Information Confidential

- 66. Range's stated goal in the Moxie Deck was direct—Range sought to "transition" CAA's business and clients to their new venture. Range's stated focus was to take the "top 1%" of celebrities in the entertainment and sports spaces.
- 67. Because the Accomplices hid from their CAA colleagues and CAA clients that they were serving only themselves and Range, they had improper access to CAA Confidential Information during much of 2020—from the time of their decision to join Micelli in early 2020 to the Accomplices' "surprise" departure from CAA in August 2020 (the "Covert Period"). The Accomplices, in concert with Micelli, abused that access to harm CAA and to benefit themselves and Range.
- 68. For example, during the Covert Period, the Accomplices participated in CAA's high-profile strategy meetings, learned of potential new clients (and Confidential Information as to why those clients might be in play), and learned of their colleagues' efforts in the market. All

the while, they had their separate, competing business—preparing to publicly launch Range and begin their unlawful efforts to establish themselves as an unlicensed talent agency.

- 69. Also during the Covert Period, certain of the Accomplices began sending large amounts of Confidential Information intended for CAA and its clients to their *personal* email accounts and cell phones. Sending these materials to personal accounts and devices ensured that it would be available to the Range Founders even after the Accomplices left CAA and lost access to CAA's systems.
- 70. During the Covert Period, certain of the Accomplices also secretly encouraged their CAA assistants, including the Solicited Employees, to take CAA's Confidential Information in violation of their contractual obligations, and to store that information in a way that the assistants could access even after leaving CAA for Range. CAA has identified, through written communications and conversations with CAA employees, examples of certain of the Accomplices coaching, encouraging, or directing CAA employees to send Confidential Information to the Solicited Employees' or one of the Accomplices' personal email accounts or personal cellphones.
- 71. These actions were often done specifically to preserve the Confidential Information for use at Range. And the types of Confidential Information sent to non-CAA email accounts and cellphones included scripts, notes of meetings with high-profile CAA clients, "grid" documents outlining multiple clients' ongoing and future projects, and business plans for particular clients' marketing and branding strategies.
- 72. On August 23, 2020, the Range Founders issued a press release regarding the "official" launch of Range.⁵ Starting that same day, Micelli and the Accomplices, scrambled to take even more Confidential Information before officially departing CAA. During the short period that the Accomplices still had access to CAA servers on and after August 23, 2020, they continued to steal CAA's Confidential Information for the benefit of Range. The Accomplices and Micelli also encouraged other CAA employees, including the Solicited Employees, who they

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⁵ Elaine Low, *Peter Micelli to Launch New Management and Production Company With Ex-CAA*, *WME, UTA Agents*, VARIETY, Aug. 23, 2020, available at: https://variety.com/2020/tv/news/caa-bugliari-cooper-whigham-sullivan-exit-micelli-1234746022/ (last visited September 25, 2024).

C. Range Induced Junior CAA Employees To Breach Their Confidentiality Obligations To CAA And CAA Clients

- 76. Even after the Accomplices departed CAA in August 2020, they continued their scheme to attempt to improperly take CAA Confidential Information and wrongfully use it to benefit Range.
- 77. Throughout this period, Range knew that CAA employees with access to Confidential Information were obligated to safeguard CAA's Confidential Information, both through written agreements and policies received, acknowledged, and agreed to by such employees. These agreements and policies through which employees affirmed their confidentiality obligations included CAA's Confidentiality Agreement and CAA's Company Handbook.
- 78. The CAA employees relevant here (the Solicited Employees and Employee-1), were privy to a host of Confidential Information belonging to CAA and relating to CAA's clients and its business (that they would later secrete out of CAA for Range), including: client lists, lists of CAA client meetings, CAA client activity reports, CAA client offer letters, scripts that were provided to CAA for its clients to read, CAA pitch decks, grids, and other highly Confidential Information relating to CAA's clients, including non-public information relating to their representatives, publicists, and assistants.
- 79. The Solicited Employees and Employee-1 each agreed they would hold CAA's Confidential Information in the strictest confidence and not use it, other than for the benefit of CAA—both during and after their employment with CAA. They were also required to return all CAA Confidential Information upon termination of employment.
- 80. Evidencing that they were continuing to act as (now unlicensed) agents, the Accomplices demanded, and found ways to secure, CAA Confidential Information from afar. With no direct access to CAA's servers, at least some of the Accomplices, acting on behalf of Range, pressed then-CAA employees to violate their contractual and other duties to CAA and send Range CAA client information.

IV. RANGE USED STOLEN CAA CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION TO GAIN AN UNFAIR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE AS AN UNLICENSED TALENT AGENCY

A. The Accomplices Violated Their Obligations To CAA And Solicited CAA Clients To Depart CAA To Benefit Range

Range exploited the CAA Confidential Information stolen over the course of 2020. Through the combined efforts of Micelli, the Accomplices, and the CAA employees they pressured to steal information, Range effectively knew the precise details of certain client's employment history, their affinity for certain roles and work with other talent, their needs, experiences, preferences, and interests—all developed at CAA's expense and through CAA's efforts. Range has leveraged CAA's Confidential Information to its advantage, unfairly harming CAA and damaging CAA's relationships with certain of its clients.

86. Indeed, just days after the Accomplices departed, CAA learned that several high-profile clients previously served by the Accomplices were leaving CAA without signing with any other talent agency. At the time of these departures, media reports indicated that these same clients were leaving CAA for Range.

87. These announcements, mere days after the Accomplices' departure from CAA, reflect that the Accomplices solicited CAA's clients to join Range while the Accomplices still worked for CAA. The Range Founders told at least some of these CAA clients that they did not "need" a talent agent to procure work for them, because Range could do it all.

88. These events make plain that the Accomplices spent months as wolves in sheep's clothing at CAA: posing as senior CAA members, while working to steal Confidential Information and generate momentum for their forthcoming departure to Range. Their plan worked relatively well; the Range Founders managed to create a "buzz" about their unlicensed talent agency by announcing their stable of talent nearly simultaneously with Range's public launch. But that of course reflects the sad truth underlying Range: it was built on an unlawful scheme to steal from CAA, and continues to this day to rest on a deceptive foundation as an unlicensed talent agency.

89. Range also has taken and commissioned projects that started with CAA—for which CAA should have been paid a commission—resulting in damages to CAA. For example, CAA was responsible for negotiating a high-profile client's deals for a major motion picture and the corresponding sequels. After that CAA client left CAA and joined Range, it appears Range continued CAA's earlier work—using wrongfully acquired information—and claimed a commission for the latest sequel. These are not the actions of a management firm but a talent agency operating outside the bounds of the laws.

B. The Accomplices Violated Their Obligations To CAA By Soliciting CAA Agents To Depart CAA For Range

- 90. The Accomplices, through their leadership positions, were well positioned to know the efforts of an array of CAA talent agents. Their access to confidential CAA client and business information gave them keen insight that into which CAA agents had significant relationships with the clients Range hoped to lure away from CAA. There is no identifiable source or collection of sources from which a competitor could gather this information about CAA agents.
- 91. Before and since their departure from CAA, the Accomplices have exploited their positions, and used Confidential Information related to CAA's business and its agents to attempt to "cherry pick" away certain CAA agents that would most benefit Range's intended business.

C. Range Continues To Operate As An Unlicensed Talent Agency To Garner An Unfair Competitive Advantage

- 92. As of the date of this filing, Range is not registered as a talent agency with the California Department of Labor.
- 93. The decision for CAA clients to leave CAA as their talent agent for a "management company"—with no agent—is telling. Range—and not their clients—is violating the law every time it procures work for an artist.
- 94. And Range continues to say the quiet part out loud about its crooked business model. In January 2021, in connection with a dispute between Johnny Depp and Amber Heard,

1	one of the Accomplices (Whigham) confirmed under oath that the work he did for Depp at Range				
2	was exactly the same work he did for Depp at CAA:				
3 4 5 6 7 8	 Q. And what is your occupation? A. Currently, I am a manager representative. Q. And what does that mean? A. It is a – it is a representative of different kinds of artists – actors, writers, directors. Q. And tell me what you – in layperson's terms, what do you do on a daily basis as a manager representative? A. I represent the interests of artists in pursuit of predominately artistic endeavors. Film and television. Q And – and what role did you have in representing Mr. Depp in 2016 when you began with him? A I was one of Johnny's agents [at CAA]. 				
9 10	 Q And what was your role at that time in representing Mr. Depp? And by this I mean what were you doing for him, effectively? A. Predominately helping him with movie and television pursuits. 				
11	See January 20, 2021 Deposition of Jack Whigham, Depp v. Heard, No. CL-2019-0002911,				
12					
13	95. To this day, the Accomplices and Range are continuing to procure work for talent				
14	without a license in violation of the TAA, their fiduciary obligations, and WGA agreements.				
15	96. For example, just within the last two months, a Range "manager" described her				
16	work in writing as serving a particular client as their "agent & day-to-day," noting that the client				
17	was "exclusively represented in all areas at Range." Reflecting the audacity of the Range				
18	Founders' scheme, it has become an "open secret" in Hollywood that Range is acting as an				
19	unlicensed talent agency, as reported by <i>Vanity Fair</i> : "I don't think that there's any management				
20	company that thinks Range is anything other than an agency masquerading as a management				
21	company to get around the rules, says one longtime manager."				
22 23	D. Range's Deceptive Description Of Its Business (As A "Management Company") Allows It To Unlawfully Compete				
24	97. Again, at the time Range was launched, the WGA sought to prohibit (or, at a				
25	minimum, severely restrict) CAA and other legitimate, franchised agencies from acting as				
26	packaging agents or engaging in production. WGA's concerns were ultimately addressed through				
27					

⁶ <u>Doesn't Anybody Want to Be an Agent Anymore? | Vanity Fair</u> (last visited September 19, 2024).

- 104. Range knew that the Accomplices and the Solicited Employees owed a duty of loyalty to CAA during their membership and employment, respectively.
- Range knew that the Accomplices and the Solicited Employees had entered into
- Range knew that the Confidentiality Agreements contained confidentiality restrictions, pursuant to which the Accomplices, the Solicited Employees, and other employees agreed to keep strictly confidential in perpetuity, and not disclose to third parties, CAA's
- Range knew that these agreements required the Solicited Employees to return all property, documents, data, and Confidential Information prepared or collected by them as part of
 - These agreements are enforceable and valid.
- Notwithstanding these agreements, the Accomplices, acting on behalf and for the benefit of Range, violated their duty of loyalty and confidentiality obligations when they (1) attended CAA meetings in order to gather information for Range to use for competitive purposes, (2) induced and attempted to induce the Solicited Employees and other CAA employees to breach their agreements and to use and disclose Confidential Information and divert CAA's clients to Range, (3) induced the Solicited Employees to violate their duties of loyalty to CAA, (4) utilized CAA's Confidential Information to solicit successful talent agents to leave CAA and join Range, and (5) used and disclosed CAA's Confidential Information to divert
- Further, Range misrepresented themselves as "managers," which enabled them to solicit clients and provide services that talent agents were not typically permitted to provide and,
- Further, Range misrepresented themselves as "managers," which unfairly enabled them to avoid the WGA-required industry restriction (preventing talent agents from negotiating packaging deals and production). By avoiding these restrictions, Range and Micelli are able to unfairly compete with all other talent agencies in the market.

1	133.	As a result of the acts alleged herein, CAA has been injured in an amount			
2	exceeding \$25,000.				
3	FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF				
4	Tortious Interference with Prospective Economic Advantage				
5		(Against Range and DOES 1-100)			
6	134.	CAA incorporates herein by reference the allegations contained in the foregoing			
7	paragraphs.				
8	135.	CAA had economic relationships with its clients. CAA expected to receive an			
9	economic benefit, namely commissions, as a result of its relationships with these customers.				
10	136.	Range had knowledge of these relationships.			
11	137.	Given CAA's low turnover rates, such relationships were likely to continue, and to			
12	yield economic benefits to CAA had Range not interfered with such relationships.				
13	138.	Range wrongfully interfered with CAA's existing business relationships by			
14	encouraging CAA's clients to leave CAA and violating the TAA—in order to wrongfully				
15	compete with CAA.				
16	139.	Range engaged in these acts with full knowledge that such acts or omissions would			
17	necessarily interfere with or disrupt the economic relationships that CAA has enjoyed with its				
18	clients.				
19	140.	Range's acts disrupted CAA's economic relationships with its clients.			
20	141.	Range's conduct was intentional and willful as it intended to harm CAA's			
21	economic and financial interests.				
22	142.	Range's conduct was wrongful and not justified, privileged, or excusable.			
23	143.	As a direct and proximate result of Range's wrongful conduct, CAA has suffered			
24	and will conti	inue to suffer irreparable harm, as well as monetary damages in an amount			
25	exceeding \$25,000.				
26		PRAYER FOR RELIEF			
27	144.	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff CAA respectfully prays:			
28		(a) That CAA be awarded such compensatory damages exceeding \$25,000 -27-			
	PLAINTIFF	CREATIVE ARTISTS AGENCY, LLC'S COMPLAINT AGAINST DEFENDANT RANGE			
		MEDIA PARTNERS, LLC			

1		against Defendants as it proves at trial;		
2	(b)	That CAA be awarded injunctive relief directing Range to return CAA's		
3	Confidential Information obtained from CAA or any current or former			
4		CAA employees, and preventing Range from: (1) using or disclosing		
5		CAA's Confidential Information; (2) unlawfully soliciting investors,		
6		clients, or customers of CAA; (3) unlawfully soliciting CAA's employees		
7		for Confidential Information; and (4) unlawfully violating the TAA.		
8	(c)	That CAA be awarded punitive damages for Range's willful and malicious		
9	conduct; and			
10	(d) That CAA be awarded such further relief as the Court may deem just,			
11		proper, or equitable, is	ncluding costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.	
12				
13	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL			
14	CAA hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.			
15				
16	DATED: September	29, 2024	PAUL HASTINGS LLP ELENA R. BACA	
17			ADAM J. FEE JESSICA MENDELSON	
18			RAKHI KUMAR	
19				
20			By:ELENA R. BACA	
21				
22			Attorneys for Plaintiff CREATIVE ARTISTS AGENCY, LLC	
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