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14	NORTHERN DIS	TRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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17		Coss No. 5.19 ov 05062 EID
1 /	IN DE COOCI E LOCATION HISTORY	Case No. 5:18-cv-05062-EJD
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I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>¹

- 1. This case addresses the surreptitious, non-consensual, tracking of millions of mobile device users' geolocation by Defendant Google LLC ("Google"). For years, Google has been encouraging its users to enable location services, ostensibly to "enhance" users' "experience" of various mobile device functions, including by assuring users that certain device settings can prevent Google from tracking their movements and storing a record of their geolocations. Contrary to its reassurances to its users, Google tracks and stores users' locations and movements to amass a vast and comprehensive store of highly valuable geolocation data which it has and continues to commercially exploit.
- 2. Google promoted its "Location History" setting as a powerful user control, with the promise that if the feature set to "off," then "the places you go are no longer stored." Google assured individuals that they could prevent Google from creating and storing a record of their movement by disabling Location History on their mobile devices or in their Google Accounts. This simply was not true.
- 3. In August 2018, the press reported that even when users had opted *out* of Location History, Google recorded historical location data comprehensive enough to map out the course of a user's movements from location to location throughout the day, and day after day. Despite the recognized sensitivity of location data, Google stores this data against the express instructions and expectations of its users. As reported by the Associated Press ("AP"), "Google wants to know where you go so badly that it records your movements even when you explicitly tell it not to."² The AP Report—corroborated by respected cyber security researchers at Princeton University—found that Google technology, embedded in more than two billion mobile devices, stores individuals' location information indefinitely even if users activate a privacy setting purporting to

¹ Pursuant to this Court's Civil Standing Order, a red-line document showing changes made to the previously-filed Consolidated Class Action Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit ("Ex.") 1. The addition of Plaintiffs Michael Childs and Noe Gamboa, and Count 3, to this Amended Consolidated Class Action Complaint are contingent upon the Court's ruling on Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave, filed herewith.

² Ryan Nakashima, *AP Exclusive: Google tracks your movements, like it or not,* The Associated Press (August 13, 2018) (Ex. 2, hereinafter "AP Report").

prevent Google from doing so. Google Senior Privacy Counsel was forced to admit Google's ongoing, invasive practices in March 2019, in testimony before Congress:

- Q. Google collects geolocation data even if location history is turned off, correct?
- A. **Yes, Senator, it can** in order to operate other services ... (inaudible)
- Q: Let's just let's just get that on the record. Google collects geolocation history and information even if location history is turned off. Do you think that an average consumer, let's say a teenager with an Android phone would be surprised to learn that Google is tracking his location even when location services are turned off turned off by scanning Wi-Fi networks around them throughout the day? Do you think he'd be surprised by that?³
- 4. Google again confirmed, in response to questions posed on April 23, 2019 by the United States House of Representatives, that in addition to Location History's ability to amass vast quantities of location data for Google, "[o]ther Google products may store precise location information."
- 5. In response to these revelations in the AP Report, by researchers at Princeton University, and then in Google's recent testimony before the United States Congress, Google has offered only confusing and obfuscating direction and explanation of its privacy settings and practices as they relate to a user's "account," and still to this day refuses to confirm whether it is possible to prevent it from storing location information by adjusting "settings" or otherwise.
- 6. Google has failed, and continues to fail, to respect and abide by the very privacy choices that it ostensibly extended to its users. Google retains and continues to collect location data under circumstances where no reasonable consumers would expect that to occur. Google gathers location data when apps and services "update" automatically on a device. It gathers location data when it performs services that have nothing to do with the user's location. It gathers location data regardless of whether users tell it not to do so, by opting out of the Location History

³ See Testimony of Will Devries, Google Senior Privacy Counsel, United States Senate Judiciary Committee, GDPR & California Consumer Privacy Act: Opt-Ins, Consumer Control, and the Impact on Competition and Innovation (March 12, 2019), at 14 (Ex. 3). In subsequent testimony, Mr. Devries consistently failed to answer directly the Senator's questions regarding whether Devries thought users, including underage users, "would be surprised" by Google's practices. Id. at 15-16.

setting. Despite users expressly declining to give Google permission to track and store a digital record of their movements, Google does just that, creating a detailed and encyclopedic chronology of users' movements and storing it in a vastly exploitable, profitable database.

- 7. Data concerning consumers' habits, customs and patterns are currency today, and as geolocation data is particularly rich and personal, it is particularly valuable currency. Google derives substantial benefits from location data, including increased revenues from advertising and a competitive advantage across a range of lucrative industries.
- 8. The ramifications of unauthorized access to the highly personal details of stored location history can be severe, and individuals accordingly go to great lengths to safeguard not only their own location information, but, in the case of parents and guardians, also that of their minor children.
- 9. Google's outrageous conduct violates its users' reasonable expectations of privacy. The intent and efforts of privacy- and security-conscious individuals to safeguard their personal information—particularly sensitive location information—must be respected. As confirmed by the Supreme Court in *Carpenter v. United States*, 138 S. Ct. 2206 (2018), location data is highly sensitive and presents a privacy interest protected by law. When stored and tracked over time, location history "provides an intimate window into a person's life, revealing not only his particular movements, but through them his familial, political, professional, religious, and sexual associations." *Id.* at 2217 (quotation marks and citation omitted). As Chief Justice John Roberts stated, "a cell phone—almost a 'feature of human anatomy[]'—tracks nearly exactly the movements of its owner A cell phone faithfully follows its owner beyond public thoroughfares and into private residences, doctor's offices, political headquarters, and other potentially revealing locales," and when a third-party has access to the information stored on one's cell phone, that entity "achieves near perfect surveillance, as if it had attached an ankle monitor to the phone's user." *Id.* at 2218 (internal citations omitted). Google's own Chief

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10. While falsely characterizing its illusory privacy controls as meaningful, Google deceptively and unconscionably deprived and continues to deprive Plaintiffs and Class members

Executive Officer has formally acknowledged that consumers have a privacy interest in in their

geolocation, and precise geolocation information is "considered highly, highly sensitive."

of one of the most fundamental autonomy and privacy rights: the ability to control access to and knowledge of their whereabouts and their movement over time. This is true not only for Plaintiffs and Class members, but also for their children, whose location information they sought to protect. Indeed, as discussed in further detail below, recognition and respect for child privacy and parental control are enshrined in longstanding societal norms and protected by the law. Google's conduct gives rise to three claims brought in this lawsuit: (1) violation of California's Constitutional Right to Privacy, (2) intrusion upon seclusion, and (3) unjust enrichment (quasi-contract claim for restitution and disgorgement)/breach of contract.⁵

II. **THE PARTIES**

<u>Plaintiff Napoleon Patacsil</u> resides in San Diego, California. From 2016 until the 11. present, Plaintiff Patacsil has owned and used, and continues to own and use, an Apple iPhone with various Google apps and functionalities downloaded onto the mobile device, including Google Maps. In an express effort to protect his location history—and thus his privacy and security—from efforts by Google, and any other third-parties, to record and access his location over time, Mr. Patacsil turned the "Location History" setting to "off" on his Google Account. Based upon the terminology used by Google (e.g. "Location History"), the context, and representations by Google to the effect that turning "Location History" off would prevent his location information from being stored and that Google would respect his privacy settings, Mr. Patacsil believed that this would prevent Google from storing a record of his location history.

See Testimony of Sundar Pichai, Google Chief Executive Officer, Transcript of United States House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, Transparency and Accountability: Examining Google and its Data Collection, use and Filtering Practices (December 11, 2018), at 53 (Ex. 4).

⁵ Plaintiffs' unjust enrichment (quasi-contract claim for restitution and disgorgement)/breach of contract claim is contingent on the Court granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave, filed concurrently herewith.

Despite Mr. Patacsil's "Location History" settings, Google continued to store his precise location information.

- 12. Prior to acquiring the iPhone in approximately 2016, Plaintiff Patacsil owned and used an Android mobile device. Android is a mobile operating system developed by Google. In an express effort to protect his location history—and thus his privacy and security—from efforts by Google, and any other third-parties, to track and record his location over time, Mr. Patacsil turned the "Location History" setting to "off" on this mobile device. Based upon the terminology used by Google (*e.g.* "Location History"), the context, and representations by Google to the effect that turning "Location History" off would prevent his location information from being stored and that Google would respect his privacy settings, Mr. Patacsil believed that this would prevent Google from storing a record of his location history. Despite Mr. Patacsil's "Location History" settings, Google continued to track and store his precise, comprehensive location information.
- 13. Throughout the relevant time period, Mr. Patacsil carried his mobile device virtually everywhere he went throughout the day, including when traveling by vehicle or otherwise on public thoroughfares and when entering commercial spaces, medical care providers, private offices, and private residences.
- 14. In the interest of protecting his privacy and security, Mr. Patacsil does not recite here the precise locations that he took his mobile device with the "Location History" setting off during the relevant time, but does allege that the following could be determined from Mr. Patacsil's location history: his eating habits; his shopping habits; his exercise habits; whether he, or those in his care, receive frequent medical or psychological care and the types of medical or psychological care providers seen; the extent to which he is involved in the activities of his children (if any), and what those activities are; how, where, and to what extent he socializes; where his friends and associates reside; whether and where he has any recurring appointments; whether and where he attends religious services; how often he takes public transit, walks, or drives, and which routes; where he parks his car; whether and where he is employed and his work schedule; where he banks; whether he has attended any political rallies or protests; and whether and when he visited the polls on election day, and which poll.

15. <u>Plaintiff Michael Childs</u>⁶ resides in Boca Raton, Florida, with his minor children K.C.1 and K.C.2. From at least July 2018 until the present, Plaintiff Childs and his children have owned and used, and continue to own and use, Apple iPhone mobile devices, with various Google apps and functionalities downloaded onto the mobile devices, including YouTube.

- 16. In an express effort to protect his location history—and thus his privacy and security—from efforts by Google, and any other third-parties, to record and access his location over time, Mr. Childs ensured that the "Location History" setting was turned "off" on his Google Account. Based upon the terminology used by Google (e.g. "Location History"), the context, and representations by Google to the effect that turning "Location History" off would prevent his location information from being stored and that Google would respect his privacy settings, Mr. Childs believed that this would prevent Google from storing a record of his location history. Despite Mr. Childs's "Location History" settings, Google continued to track and store his precise, comprehensive location information.
- 17. In an express effort to protect children's location history—and thus their privacy and security—from efforts by Google, and any other third-parties, to record and access their location over time, Mr. Childs checked that the "Location History" setting was turned to "off" on his children's Google Accounts. Based upon the terminology used by Google (e.g. "Location History"), the context, and representations by Google to the effect that turning "Location History" off would prevent their location information from being stored and that Google would respect their privacy settings, Mr. Childs and his minor children believed that this would prevent Google from storing a record of the children's location history. Despite his children's "Location History" settings, Google continued to track and store their precise, comprehensive location information.
- 18. Throughout the relevant time period, both Mr. Childs and his minor children each carried their respective mobile devices virtually everywhere they went throughout the day, including when traveling by vehicle or otherwise on public thoroughfares and when entering commercial spaces, medical care providers, private offices, and private residences.

⁶ The addition of Michael Childs as a named Plaintiff is subject to Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave, filed herewith.

- 19. In the interest of protecting his privacy and security, and the privacy and security of his children, Mr. Childs does not recite here the precise locations that he or his children took their mobile devices with the "Location History" setting off during the relevant time, but examples of places where Google would have tracked him and/or his children without permission include: School, beach, Starbucks, mall, home, friends' homes, restaurants, sports competitions and/or events.
- 20. In addition, the following could be determined from Mr. Childs's location history: his eating habits; his shopping habits; his exercise habits; whether he receives frequent medical or psychological care and the types of medical or psychological care providers he sees; the extent to which he is involved in the activities of his children, and what those activities are; how, where, and to what extent he socializes; where his friends and associates reside; whether and where he has any recurring appointments; whether and where he attends religious services; how often he takes public transit, walks, or drives, and which routes; where he parks his car; whether and where he is employed and his work schedule; where he banks; whether he has attended any political rallies or protests; and whether and when he visited the polls on election day, and which poll.
- 21. Plaintiff Childs further alleges that the following information regarding his minor children could be determined from their location history: their eating habits; their shopping habits; their exercise habits; whether their receive frequent medical or psychological care and the types of medical or psychological care providers seen; the extent to which they are involved in before or after-school activities, and what those activities are; how, where, and to what extent they socialize; where their friends and associates reside; whether and where they have any recurring appointments; whether and where they attend religious services; how often they take public transit, walks, or are driven, and which routes; whether they have attended any political rallies or protests; whether they are home-schooled or attend school outside of the home, which school, and whether they have good attendance.
- 22. <u>Plaintiff Najat Oshana</u> resides in Modesto, California. From at least 2012 until the present, Plaintiff Oshana has owned and used, and continues to own and use, an Android

mobile device, with various Google apps and functionalities downloaded onto the mobile device, including Google Maps. In an express effort to protect her location history—and thus her privacy and security—from efforts by Google, and any other third-parties, to record and access her location over time, Ms. Oshana turned the "Location History" setting to "off" on her Google Account. Based upon the terminology used by Google (e.g. "Location History"), the context, and representations by Google to the effect that turning "Location History" off would prevent her location information from being stored and that Google would respect her privacy settings, Ms. Oshana believed that this would prevent Google from storing a record of her location history. Despite Ms. Oshana's "Location History" settings, Google continued to track and store her precise, comprehensive location information.

- 23. Throughout the relevant time period, Ms. Oshana carried her mobile device virtually everywhere she went throughout the day, including when traveling by vehicle or otherwise on public thoroughfares and when entering commercial spaces, medical care providers, private offices, and private residences.
- 24. In the interest of protecting her privacy and security, Ms. Oshana does not recite here the precise locations that she took her mobile device with the "Location History" setting off during the relevant time, but does allege that the following could be determined from her location history: her eating habits; her shopping habits; her exercise habits; whether she, or those in her care, receive frequent medical or psychological care and the types of medical or psychological care providers seen; the extent to which she is involved in the activities of her children (if any), and what those activities are; how, where, and to what extent she socializes; where her friends and associates reside; whether and where she has any recurring appointments; whether and where she attends religious services; how often she takes public transit, walks, or drives, and which routes; where she parks her car; whether and where she is employed and her work schedule; where she banks; whether she has attended any political rallies or protests; and whether and when she visited the polls on election day, and which poll.
- 25. <u>Plaintiff Nurudaaym Mahon</u> resides in Douglasville, Georgia. From at least 2013 until the present, Plaintiff Mahon has owned and used, and continues to own and use, an

Android mobile device. In an express effort to protect his location history—and thus his privacy
and security—from efforts by Google, and any other third-parties, to record and access his
location over time, Mr. Mahon turned the "Location History" setting to "off" on his Google
Account. Based upon the terminology used by Google (e.g. "Location History"), the context, and
representations by Google to the effect that turning "Location History" off would prevent his
location information from being stored and that Google would respect his privacy settings, Mr.
Mahon believed that this would prevent Google from storing a record of his location history.
Despite Mr. Mahon's "Location History" settings, Google continued to track and store his
precise, comprehensive location information.
26. Throughout the relevant time period, Mr. Mahon carried his mobile device
virtually everywhere he went throughout the day, including when traveling by vehicle or

- 26. Throughout the relevant time period, Mr. Mahon carried his mobile device virtually everywhere he went throughout the day, including when traveling by vehicle or otherwise on public thoroughfares and when entering commercial spaces, medical care providers, private offices, and private residences.
- 27. In the interest of protecting his privacy and security, Mr. Mahon does not recite here the precise locations that he took his mobile device with the "Location History" setting off during the relevant time, but does allege that the following could be determined from Mr. Mahon's location history: his eating habits; his shopping habits; his exercise habits; whether he, or those in his care, receive frequent medical or psychological care and the types of medical or psychological care providers seen; the extent to which he is involved in the activities of his children (if any), and what those activities are; how, where, and to what extent he socializes; where his friends and associates reside; whether and where he has any recurring appointments; whether and where he attends religious services; how often he takes public transit, walks, or drives, and which routes; where he parks his car; whether and where he is employed and his work schedule; where he banks; whether he has attended any political rallies or protests; and whether and when he visited the polls on election day, and which poll.

- Plaintiff Noe Gamboa⁷ resides in Alsip, Illinois. From at least 2010 until the present, Plaintiff Gamboa has owned and used, and continues to own and use, an Apple iPhone with various Google apps and functionalities downloaded onto the mobile device including, at times, Google Maps. In an express effort to protect his location history—and thus his privacy and security—from efforts by Google, and any other third-parties, to record and access his location over time, Mr. Gamboa turned the "Location History" setting to "off" on his device. Based upon the terminology used by Google (e.g. "Location History"), the context, and representations by Google to the effect that turning "Location History" off would prevent his location information from being stored and that Google would respect his privacy settings, Mr. Gamboa believed that this would prevent Google from storing a record of his location history. Despite Mr. Gamboa's "Location History" settings, Google continued to store his precise location information.
- 29. Throughout the relevant time period, Mr. Gamboa carried his mobile device virtually everywhere he went throughout the day, including when traveling by vehicle or otherwise on public thoroughfares and when entering commercial spaces, medical care providers, private offices, and private residences.
- 30. In the interest of protecting his privacy and security, Mr. Gamboa does not recite here the precise locations that he took his mobile device with the "Location History" setting off during the relevant time, but does allege that the following could be determined from Mr. Gamboa's location history: his eating habits; his shopping habits; his exercise habits; whether he, or those in his care, receive frequent medical or psychological care and the types of medical or psychological care providers seen; the extent to which he is involved in the activities of his children and what those activities are; how, where, and to what extent he socializes; where his friends and associates reside; whether and where he has any recurring appointments; whether and where he attends religious services; how often he takes public transit, walks, or drives, and which routes; where he parks his car; whether and where he is employed and his work schedule; where

⁷ The addition of Noe Gamboa as a named Plaintiff is subject to Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave, filed herewith.

⁸ Google, *Google Terms of Service* (effective March 31, 2020) (Ex. 5); *see also* Google, *Google Terms of* Service (last modified October 25, 2017) (Ex. 6).

⁹ Id.

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V. INTRADISTRICT ASSIGNMENT

- 36. Pursuant to Civil L.R. 3-2(c), assignment to this division is proper because a substantial part of the conduct which gives rise to Plaintiffs' claims occurred in this district. Defendants market their products throughout the United States, including in Santa Clara County. Additionally, Google is headquartered in Mountain View, California, which is located within Santa Clara County.
- 37. Assignment to this division is also proper pursuant to Google's Terms of Service, which state in pertinent part that all claims arising out of or relating to Google's terms or services will be litigated "exclusively in the federal or state courts of Santa Clara County, California, USA, and [users] and Google consent to personal jurisdiction in those courts." 10

VI. STATEMENT OF FACTS

A. Google Assured Its Users That They Could Prevent Google's Tracking of their Locations.

- 38. According to a 2018 report by the Pew Research Center, the vast majority of Americans—95%—own a cellphone; 77% of Americans own smartphones.¹¹ Globally, an estimated 5 billion people are connected through mobile devices, with approximately one-half of those using smartphones.¹² The overwhelming majority of mobile devices run on one of two operating systems: Android or iOS, which are developed by Google and Apple, respectively.¹³
- 39. On each of these operating systems, users expect to customize their devices to their preferences by "managing" various functionalities of their devices. They can, for example, change their time zone, preferred language, or screen brightness. Included among these functionalities is the option to turn on or off the retention of "Location History"—that is, the individual's precise historical location information.¹⁴ In its Terms of Service until the language

¹⁰ Id. See also Google, Google Terms of Service (last modified October 25, 2017) (Ex. 6).

¹¹ Pew Research Center, *Mobile Fact Sheet* (February 5, 2018) (Ex. 7).

¹² David George et al., *Global Mobile Trends 2017*, GSMA Intelligence (September 2017) (Ex. 8).

¹³ James Vincent, 99.6 percent of new smartphones run Android or iOS, The Verge (February 16, 2017) (Ex. 9).

¹⁴ As used herein, "location information" refers to any and all data obtained through an individual's mobile device, which allows for the identification of that individual's location either in the present or, when stored, through historic record.

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was removed in March of 2020, Google represented that it would "respect the choices you make to limit sharing or visibility settings in your Google Account." ¹⁵ In its Privacy Policy, Google consistently has promised that "across our services, you can adjust your privacy settings to control what we collect and how your information is used." ¹⁶ Up until the time its true conduct became public, Google also falsely represented that, for its operating system, turning "Location History" off would prevent the company from storing location data reflecting where an individual using a device with its Android operating system had been.

- 40. In addition to developing the Android operating system, Google also develops apps that can be downloaded on Android and iOS devices. Google purports to allow users to make customized settings and privacy decisions at the app level. Google tells users that they can choose to share location information with some apps, for specified purposes, but choose not to share that information with other apps. Google also claims that a user can share location information with a certain app at some times (e.g., when the app is in active use), but not at others. Google falsely represented that, for its apps, turning "Location History" off would prevent the company from storing location data reflecting in detail where an individual with Google apps downloaded had been.
- 41. Google specifically—though falsely—assured users of both its apps and its mobile devices that it would not store their location information if users denied or revoked its permission to do so through their privacy settings. Google's support page on the subject stated: "You can turn off Location History at any time. With Location History off, the places you go are no longer stored."17

¹⁵ Google Terms of Service (last modified October 25, 2017) (Ex. 6).

¹⁶ Google Privacy Policy (effective July 1, 2020) (Ex. 10). Although Google amended its privacy policy more than sixteen times in the past six years, it has consistently made representations to the effect that users control what data Google collects about them through settings that users can

Archived version of Google Account Help, Manage or delete your Location History, (August 16, 2018) (emphasis added) (Ex. 11).

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1	42. Google instructed Android mobile device owners how to turn off Location History
2	on their devices, by going to the device's "Settings" tab, as follows: 18
3	 On your Android phone or tablet, open your device's Settings app
5	2. At the top, tap Data & personalization.
	Under "Activity controls," tap Location History.
6	Turn Location History on or off for your account or devices:
7	 For your whole account and all devices associated with it, turn Use Location History on or off.
8	 For a certain device only, turn that device's history on or off.
9	
10	43. For users of Apple devices such as iPhones and iPads, Google purported to explain
11	that a user must log into her online account with Google to turn off "Location History" (as it does
12	not control the Apple device's operating system), and that turning "Location History" off would
13	"stop[] saving new location information": 19
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27	18 Id. 19 Applying version of Cooole Account Help I continue history for iPhone & iPad (July 20, 2018)
28	¹⁹ Archived version of Google Account Help, <i>Location history for iPhone & iPad</i> (July 30, 2018) (Ex. 12).

CASE NO. 5:18-CV-05062-EJD - 14 - AMENDED CONSOLIDATED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1 Turn Location History on or off 2 Location History stores your location data from all devices that are signed in to your Google Account. 3 Note: When you pause Location History, it doesn't delete previous activity, it 4 only stops saving new location information. 5 Using your browser 6 1. Go to the Location history \(\sigma \) section of your Google Account. Turn Location History on or off. 7 · Off: Confirm by tapping Pause. 8 · On: Confirm by tapping Turn on. 9 Using the Google app 10 Open the Google app G. 11 2. At the top right, tap your account photo. You might need to sign in. 3. Tap My Account > Personal info and privacy > Activity controls > 12 Google Location History. 13 4. Turn the setting on or off. If you turn it off, confirm by tapping Stop storing location. 14 15 44. Google affirmatively represented to both Android and Apple device users that 16 turning off "Location History" would result in Google ceasing to store an individual's location 17 information. 18 В. **Google Stores Comprehensive Location Information Regardless of Privacy** Settings. 19 45. Consistent with the instructions for users to manage Google's permissions 20 respecting their location information described above, Google published a support page to instruct 21 users on how to manage and delete the user's "Location History" which stated, "[w]ith Location 22 History off, the places you go are no longer stored. When you turn off Location History for your 23 Google Account, it's off for all devices associated with that Google Account."²⁰ 24 46. Users who visited Google's Privacy Policy for more information received further 25 confirmation that unless they opted to turn "Location History" on, they were not "allow[ing]" 26 27 ²⁰ Archived version of Google Account Help, Manage or delete your Location History, (August 16, 2018) (Ex. 11). 28

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1	Google to store information about their location, from any Google app or service. Specifically, as
2	of at least December 18, 2017, Google's Privacy Policy expansively stated "[w]hen you use
3	Google services, we may collect and process information about your actual location. We use
4	various technologies to determine location, including IP address, GPS, and other sensors that
5	may, for example, provide Google with information on nearby devices, Wi-Fi access points and
6	cell towers."21 The phrase "may collect and process information about your actual location" was
7	hyperlinked, and clicking on it for more information took users to a page further illustrating that,
8	through the Location History setting, users could control Google's permissions to store location
9	data used by any Google app or service:
10	Location History allows Google to store a history of your location data from all devices where you are logged into your Google Account
11	and have enabled Location Reporting. Location History and Location Reporting data may be used by any Google app or service. ²²
12	Reporting data may be used by any Google app of service.
13	47. Google's representations were false. As the AP Report revealed, turning off
14	"Location History" only stopped Google from creating a location timeline that the user could

- view. Google, however, tracked and continues to track the device users and store a meticulous record of their precise locations.
- 48. Contrary to Google's representations, even when "Location History" is turned off, whether at the Google Account level or the individual device level, a user's location is stored, and continues to be stored, by Google. The limited discovery undertaken to date in this action confirms that Google maintains at least one confidential "

through Web & App Activity. ²³

Archived version of Google Privacy Policy (last modified December 18, 2017) (Ex. 13); see also Christina Bonnington, How Google Uses Wi-Fi Networks to Figure Out Your Exact Location, Slate (June 20, 2018) ("Any time a GPS-enabled Android device picks up your router's broadcast signal, it can pinpoint its location and relay that information to Google's location servers.") (Ex. 14).

²² Archived version of "may collect and process information about your actual location" page hyperlinked from Google Privacy Policy (last modified December 18, 2017) (emphasis added) (Ex. 15). Additional hyperlinked text ("Learn More") within this hyperlinked page routed users back to the Account Help page Manage or delete your Location History, which contained instructions to "Turn Location History on or off" (see Ex. 11).

²³ Defendant Google LLC's Supplemental Objections and Responses to Plaintiffs' First Set of Interrogatories (Ex. 64), at 11.

1	49. Google's data stores are vast. Google's mobile applications—such as Google
2	Maps, Google Search, Google Hangouts, and "camera" apps—are ubiquitous in contemporary
3	life, and gather location data on their users almost incessantly. The data stores are also largely
4	hidden from view. Google closely controls what users can learn about the data Google has
5	collected about them. In the current version of Google's Privacy Policy, for example, users are
6	advised broadly that Google uses "various technologies" to collect, and store, information,
7	"including [but, it appears, not necessarily limited to] cookies, pixel tags, local storage, such as
8	browser web storage or application data caches, databases, and server logs." ²⁴ Little is publicly
9	known, but at a minimum, based on the limited information available to users with the
10	appropriate technical tools, it has been confirmed that location data is captured and then stored
11	consistently by Google-controlled features on a given user's mobile device, including, inter alia,
12	the Google Maps app, weather apps, and searches made with the device's mobile browser. As
13	reported by the AP:
14	For example, Google stores a snapshot of where you are when you
15	merely open its Maps app. Automatic daily weather updates on Android phones pinpoint roughly where you are. And some
16	searches that have nothing to do with location, like "chocolate chip cookies," or "kids science kits," pinpoint your precise latitude and longitude — accurate to the square foot — and save it to your
17	Google account. ²⁵
18	50. European researchers have corroborated the AP's findings. On November 27,
19	2018, Norwegian consumer protection organization Forbrukerrådet published a report entitled
20	"Every Step You Take, How deceptive design lets Google track users 24/7," which examined
21	"how Google continuously tracks the location of its users through a number of different
22	technologies implemented and enabled through the features "Location History" and "Web &
23	App Activity," with reference to user testing of Android-enabled devices. ²⁶ Forbrukerrådet
24	24
25	²⁴ Google Privacy Policy, supra n.16 (Ex. 10). This limited disclosure first appeared in Google's privacy policy only on May 25, 2018. See generally https://policies.google.com/privacy/archive?hl=en-US (listing of archived Google Privacy
26	Policies).
2728	 AP Report (Ex. 2). Forbrukerrådet (Norwegian Consumer Council), Every Step You Take, How deceptive design lets Google track users 24/7 (November 27, 2018) (Ex. 16).

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concluded that consumers are deceived into being tracked when they use Google services, through multiple techniques including hiding information and deceptive design, and that Google's practices are unethical.²⁷

51. Google's ability to gather geolocation information is unparalleled. Google has access to a startling array of technologies for determining the location of a given user's mobile devices, the user's direction and speed of travel, and the user's proximity to other users and locations. At a minimum, Google collects location data via GPS data, IP addresses, sensor data from devices, "[i]nformation about things near your device, such as Wi-Fi access points, cell towers, and Bluetooth-enabled devices," and, as disclosed confidentially in Google's 2019 responses to questions from the U.S. Legislature, via "

In addition, Google:

collects information about you from publicly accessible sources. For example, if your name appears in your local newspaper, Google's Search engine may index that article and display it to other people if they search for your name. We may also collect information about you from trusted partners, including marketing partners who provide us with information about potential customers of our business services, and security partners who provide us with information to protect against abuse. We also receive information from advertisers to provide advertising and research services on their behalf.²⁹

Thus, in addition to collecting location data via the operation of various apps on consumers' devices, Google also collects data from other sources which allows it to amass and correlate data to create a comprehensive tracking and profiling of its users.

52. The proliferation of Google Android apps allow for a continuous flow of personal data to Google's servers, even when a user is not interacting with those apps. Google's Android operating system alone hosts more than 2 million applications (most having nothing to do with the user's location, such as mobile health analysis, payment services, social networking, and

²⁷ *Id*.

²⁸ Google Privacy Policy, supra n.16 (Ex. 10).

²⁹ *Id*.

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music streaming). 30 In October 2018, it was reported that approximately 90% of such applications sent personal data to Google.³¹ This data sharing occurs whether or not users interact with the apps on their devices. For example, "[a]ccording to a study conducted by Vanderbilt University, a dormant, stationary Android phone, with Google Chrome active in the background, communicated location information to Google 340 times during a 24-hour period, or at an average of 14 data communications per hour."³²

- 53. The Vanderbilt study demonstrated that, when using an Android device, "even if a user does not interact with any key Google applications, Google is still able to collect considerable information through its advertiser and publisher products," and that "location information constituted 35% of all the data samples sent to Google."³³ This data collection "is driven largely by data activity from Google's publisher and advertiser products (e.g. Google Analytics, DoubleClick, AdWords),"34 all of which Google continued when users opted out of Location History, by saving the information via Web & App Activity or otherwise, despite its representations that their data would not be stored. Forbrukerrådet's report similarly observes that "[o]n Android, allowing any particular app to access location data will allow the service to collect this information in the background, not just while the app is actively in use."³⁵
- 54. Users of Apple products are also severely affected. "While using an iOS device, if a user decides to forgo the use of any Google product (i.e. no Android, no Chrome, no Google applications), and visits only non-Google webpages, the number of times data is communicated to Google servers still remains surprisingly high. This communication is driven purely by advertiser/publisher services. The number of times such Google services are called from an iOS

³⁴ *Id.* at 3.

³⁰ See generally Google Play Store, https://play.google.com/store/apps?hl=en_US (last visited June 25,2020).

Steve McCaskill, 'Nine in ten' Android apps send data to Google, TechRadar Pro (October 24, 2018) (Ex. 17).

³² Ex. 4 at 4.

³³ (Vanderbilt Study), Douglas C. Schmidt, *Google Data Collection*, Digital Content Next (August 15, 2018) (Ex. 18) at 3-4.

³⁵ Ex. 16, at 9.

device is similar to an Android device. In this experiment, the total magnitude of data
communicated to Google servers from an iOS device is found to be approximately half of that
from the Android device."³⁶

55. Google does not provide any means, let alone any straightforward means, for users
to ascertain the full extent of location information collected about them. Google offers tools such

- to ascertain the full extent of location information collected about them. Google offers tools such as "My Activity"³⁷ and "Takeout"³⁸ for viewing and downloading data in an individual's "Google Account," but provides no confirmation that the "Account" represents the full compendium of data Google itself has stored about the individual. These tools provide the illusion that individuals can understand, control, and delete the data that Google collects and has concerning them. In fact, researchers at Vanderbilt warn that these tools "do not paint a complete picture of the size and scale of Google's data collection," noting that, among other things, "analysis of actual data traffic passed to Google's servers" would be necessary to get a more complete picture.³⁹
- Google's tools for deleting location data. Google's current privacy policy states that "[w]hen you delete data, we follow a deletion process to make sure that your data is safely and completely removed from our servers **or retained only in anonymized form**." Google—since this caveat was added to its policies in October 2019—now claims the right to store "deleted" data in another format. This is troublesome for many reasons, including that Google is uniquely able to deanonymize stored location data, and in all events may continue to use even ostensibly

³⁶ *Id.* at 4.

³⁷ Google states that "My Activity allows you to review and control data that's created when you use Google services, like searches you've done or your visits to Google Play. You can browse by date and by topic, and delete part or all of your activity." *Google Privacy Policy* (Ex. 10).

³⁸ See, e.g., Google Account, Google Takeout, available at

https://takeout.google.com/settings/takeout (last visited July 3, 2020).

³⁹ Ex. 18 (Vanderbilt Study) at 9.

⁴⁰ Google Privacy Policy, supra n.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**, at 14 (Ex. 10) (emphasis added). Google quietly added this caveat to the "Retaining your Information" section of its Privacy Policy for the first time, on October 15, 2019. See generally https://policies.google.com/privacy/archive?hl=en-US (listing of archived Google Privacy Policies).

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anonymized location data to serve "personalized" advertisements to users, regardless of the preferences those users express.

- 57. Google holds numerous patents concerning the collection, treatment and analysis of geolocation data.⁴¹ These proprietary technologies demonstrate Google's capabilities and longstanding interests in obtaining and using a comprehensive and precise record of users' locations and movements, and, on information and belief, reveal its ability to de-anonymize location data.
- 58. Google's secretive location tracking and storage practices are not only deceptive and unethical, they are directly contrary to users' reasonable expectations of privacy. As Princeton computer scientist and former chief technologist for the Federal Communications Commission's enforcement bureau, Jonathan Mayer, stated: "If you're going to allow users to turn off something called 'Location History,' then all the places where you maintain location history should be turned off. That seems like a pretty straightforward position to have." 42

C. <u>Google's Conduct is an Egregious Invasion of Personal Privacy, Personal Security, and Personal Dignity.</u>

59. Google's "Location History" is profoundly granular and revealing. Each time Google captures an individual's location information, it stores several data points, including but not limited to: timestamp (the exact moment in time that the data was captured), latitude, longitude, velocity, altitude, and activity. The "activity" data point even appears to reflect *how* an individual is moving. Activity values include "IN_VEHICLE," "IN_ROAD_VEHICLE,"

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⁴¹ Google's patent entitled "Determining device location using multiple sources of location data," for example, explains how Google can determine the precise location of a device that may be communicating multiple, varying sources of location data (*e.g.*, Wi-Fi and GPS) to Google simultaneously. U.S. Patent No. 10,310,090 (issued June 4, 2019); *see also* U.S. Patent No. 10,274,346 (issued Apr. 30, 2019) ("Determining quality of a location-determination algorithm associated with a mobile device by processing a log of sensor data"); U.S. Patent No. 10,148,772 (issued Dec. 4, 2018) ("System and method for automatically pushing location-specific content to users"); U.S. Patent No. 10,180,980 (issued Jan. 15, 2019) ("Methods and systems for eliminating duplicate events").

⁴² AP Report, *supra* n.2 (Ex. 2).

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"IN FOUR WHEELER VEHICLE" (Figure 1); 43 "EXITING VEHICLE" (Figure 2);
 1
      "WALKING," "ON_FOOT" (Figure 3); "STILL" (Figure 4); and "TILTING" (Figure 5).
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                                                  Figure 1:
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                              }, {
                                "timestampMs" : "1542042899598",
 5
                                "latitudeE7" : 347366509,
                                 'longitudeE7" : -922687181,
                                 "accuracy" : 44,
 6
                                 "activity" : [ {
                                   "timestampMs" : "1542042874895",
 7
                                   'activity" : [ {
"type" : "IN_VEHICLE",
 8
                                    "confidence" : 100
 9
                                     "type" : "IN_ROAD_VEHICLE",
                                    "confidence" : 100
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                                     "type" : "IN_FOUR_WHEELER_VEHICLE",
                                    "confidence": 99
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                                  } ]
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                                                  Figure 2:
13
                                       "timestampMs" : "1537297638882",
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                                       activity" : [ {
                                        "type" : "EXITING VEHICLE",
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                                        "confidence": 100
                                      } ]
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                                                 Figure 3:
18
                                     }, {
19
                                        "timestampMs" : "1537296563477",
                                        "activity" : [ {
                                          "type" : "ON_FOOT",
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                                         "confidence": 100
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                                          "type" : "WALKING",
                                          "confidence": 100
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⁴³ The following figures show location information collected by Google, captured by forensic testing conducted as part of counsel's investigation of this matter, and do not show Plaintiffs' location information or other data.

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"timestampMs" : "1541747209048",
"latitudeE7" : 347430195,
longitudeE7" : -922773730,
'accuracy"
          : 16,
'velocity" : 0,
'altitude" : 91,
verticalAccuracy": 32,
 activity"
          : [ {
   timestampMs" : "1541747208913",
             : [ {
   activity"
    "type" : "STILL"
   "confidence": 100
 } ]
```

Figure 5:

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"timestampMs" : "1541723208156",
"latitudeE7" : 347428915,
"longitudeE7" : -922776871,
"accuracy" : 55,
"velocity" : 0,
"heading" : 231,
"altitude" : 273,
"verticalAccuracy" : 128,
"activity" : [ {
    "timestampMs" : "1541719739275",
    "activity" : [ {
        "type" : "TILTING",
        "confidence" : 100
    } ]
} ]
```

- 60. Additional activity values include "RUNNING," "IN_RAIL_VEHICLE," "IN_TWO_WHEELER_VEHICLE," "ON_BICYCLE," and "UNKNOWN."
- 61. Google also measures, on a scale from 1 to 100, how sure it is that the user is actually engaging in that type of movement.⁴⁴
- 62. Thus, for a given individual, Google not only stores a record of where, specifically, she is, at what time, and for what duration; Google also discerns how fast she is traveling, whether it is on foot or in a vehicle (and which specific vehicle), and whether she is entering or exiting a given vehicle.
- 63. The location information stored by Google in violation of its representations and Class members' permissions is personally identifying, in and of itself. As early as 2013, before

⁴⁴ Ex. 18 (Vanderbilt Study) at 12-13.

the technological advances of the past seven years and those to come, researchers found that 95%
of individuals in a dataset of 1.5 million people whose locations were tracked hourly for fifteen
months could be identified by cross-referencing only four time-stamped location data points. ⁴⁵ A
more recent 2018 study at MIT, cross-referencing GPS data from smartphones, call logs, and
time-stamped transit logs collected in Singapore in 2011, achieved consistent results (95%
identification) in less than one week. ⁴⁶ That Google can identify individuals from the vast
quantities of data it has collected—even "deleted" data stored in "anonymized form," can readily
be inferred.

64. Google imposes no limitations on its own ability to cross-reference points in its stores of user data. In 2012, Google announced that it would eliminate distinctions between data collected from different Google products and services for purposes of its advertising, data analysis, and other activities, saying specifically that Google "may combine information you've provided from one service with information from other services," and "[w]e'll treat you as a single user across all our products." The current iteration of Google's Privacy Policy also provides that Google collects identifying data from "publicly accessible sources," and "trusted partners, including marketing partners," as well as "information from advertisers to provide advertising and research services on their behalf." In addition to data Google collects about users from other sources, any user's Google Account may include additional items of personally identifying information input by the user, such as the user's phone number, address, and payment information.

⁴⁵ Yves-Alexandre de Montjoye, et al., *Unique in the Crowd: The privacy bounds of human mobility* (March 25, 2013) (Ex. 19).

⁴⁶ Rob Matheson, MIT News Office, *The privacy risks of compiling mobility data* (December 7, 2018) (Ex. 20) at 3.

⁴⁷ Alma Whitten, Updating our privacy policies and terms of service, Google Official Blog (January 24, 2012) (Ex. 21). Reports at the time indicated that Google's motivation was to improve Google's ability to monitor users' interaction with and responses to advertising campaigns—consolidated data from multiple distinct interfaces would, for example, provide Google more opportunities to determine whether users made a purchase using a different interface than the one in which the ads were initially shown.

⁴⁸ Google Privacy Policy, supra n.16 (Ex. 10).

65. As further reporting in the *New York Times* and other news outlets demonstrates, the issues presented in this action are of grave concern to everyone with a smartphone. *New York Times* reporters gained access to a relatively small trove of ostensibly "anonymized" location data, and these reporters were able to tie the cell phone "pings" included in that data to individual members of society with ease, generating maps of, essentially, those individuals' entire daily lives. As these reporters observed:

This granular location data — the kind that is collected by hundreds of mobile apps and then shared with dozens of location data brokers — may seem like a catalog of the mundane. But the aggregate is closer to total surveillance — an exact record of the rhythms of a living, breathing community.⁴⁹

- 66. Reporters have shown that with access to publicly available information, location data can be used to ascertain the movements even of the United States President, confirming that in the absence of effective tools to disable location tracking, no ordinary consumer is exempt from highly targeted and individualized surveillance.⁵⁰
- 67. Moreover, when an individual's precise location is stored over a period of time, access to that stored location information by itself provides an intimate, and individually-identifying, profile of that individual's movements throughout life. Google's stored location information is linked with *other* personally-identifying information, including an individual's name, email address, and potentially many other personally-identifying data points. Specifically, location information stored by Google is stored in an individual's Google Account (in addition to other repositories known to Google, such as the other data in that account, including the individual's name and email address. These are required data points for establishing a Google Account.
- 68. Google has created the means to illicitly compile extremely valuable, personal, and important time-stamped data points, contrary to users' express direction to Google. A relatively

⁴⁹ Charlie Warzel and Stuart A. Thompson, *Where Even the Children Are Being Tracked*, New York Times (December 21, 2019) at 1 (Ex. 22).

⁵⁰ See Stuart A. Thompson and Charlie Warzel, *How to Track President Trump*, New York Times (December 20, 2019) (Ex. 23).

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27 28 minimal amount of location data would confirm to Google where a person lives and works, because those locations will occur most frequently in any data set. This data would also enable Google to cross-reference and conduct unlimited analysis toward unmerited, improper, and monetizable insights into users' private lives, including without limitation into their social, professional, and other relationships, whether and to what extent they perform activities or travel with others, when two people first meet, how they might influence one another, and when common living arrangements and other relationships begin and end.

- 69. The collection and storage of users' geolocation data itself violated users' reasonable expectations of privacy, and also puts them at increased risk for further privacy violations. Data breaches and other security vulnerabilities are increasingly common among companies that store user data. As a major aggregator of valuable personally identifying and other information, Google is an obvious target for hackers. Any information that Google stores may eventually be stolen, if it has not already been. As recently as October 2018, for example, Google announced that it had discovered vulnerability in its Google+ program that exposed personal account information to third-parties, contrary to its user agreements and representations. Reportedly, in order to protect its public image, Google failed to disclose that information to the public for months, and came clean only *after* the security risk was discovered by the media.⁵¹
- 70. In addition, despite security measures in place, individual Google accounts are sometimes compromised and may be taken over by criminals and others who would use the information stored there for nefarious purposes, such as stalking, harassment, identity theft, and phishing the associates of the targeted Google user. In many respects, the *only* sure way to prevent sensitive location histories from falling into unauthorized hands is to keep no records in the first instance. Through its duplicitous conduct, misrepresentations, and omissions here,

⁵¹ See Douglas MacMillan and Robert McMillan, Google Exposed User Data, Feared Repercussions of Disclosing to Public, The Wall Street Journal (October 8, 2018), available at https://www.wsj.com/articles/google-exposed-user-data-feared-repercussions-of-disclosing-topublic-1539017194? (last visited July 3, 2020). Shortly thereafter, Google shut down the Google+ product entirely. Bill Chappell, Google Accelerates Google+ Shutdown After 52.5 Million Users' Data Exposed, NPR (Dec. 11, 2018), available at https://www.npr.org/2018/12/11/675529798/with-52-5-million-users-data-exposed-on-googlegoogle-quickens-shutdown (last visited July 3, 2020).

1 Google denied Plaintiffs and Class members the very option it expressly—and falsely—touted it 2 was providing them. 3 D. It Is Not Possible to Prevent Google's Collection of Location Information Through the Controls It Purports to Give Consumers. 4 5 71. Google's first location-enabled mobile service, "My Location," launched as part of 6 Google Maps on November 28, 2007. In its introduction to the service, Google said that My 7 Location used cell tower communications to pinpoint the user's real-time location in the form of a "magical blue circle" displayed on Google Maps. 52 8 9 72. Acknowledging that users view their location data as highly sensitive, Google's 10 My Location launch announcement included an informational video that promised users who 11 enabled the My Location feature complete anonymity, and described the feature as a transient use 12 by Google of cellular tower data to "display" (not store) location information, at such time as 13 "My Location" was in use (not indefinitely): 14 So how does it work? Each time you use your phone to make a call, send a text message, or view a web site, the information goes 15 through towers which provide your phone with reception. A tower picks up your call and connects you to your aunt Molly. The same 16 thing happens when you fire up Google Maps for mobile. The tower gives you the reception you need to access map information. 17 These towers also help Google **display** your location. Each tower has a unique footprint. When you access My Location, Google 18 calculates an estimated location of your handset based on the unique footprint of nearby towers. It's not GPS, but it comes 19 pretty close. The location accuracy may vary and the service gets better the more you use it. You might ask, does Google know 20 where I am? The answer is no. In order for you to receive a normal call, your phone needs to locate and connect to a nearby 21 tower. Google uses the same location information for My Location. It tells Google where a handset is, but not who's using it, their 22 phone number, or any other personal information. And if you want, you can always disable the feature. . . . 23 24 73. On February 4, 2009, Google launched Latitude, another feature of Google Maps, 25 which transmitted the real-time location information described above to other Latitude 26 ⁵² Mike Chu, New magical blue circle on your map, Google Mobile Blog (November 28, 2007) 27 (transcription of excerpt from embedded video at 1:15-2:14) (Ex. 24).

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⁵³ *Id*.

subscribers (specified by the user), on an opt-in basis.⁵⁴ In connection with the launch of this 1 2 feature, Google again promised to protect and respect user privacy, and specifically 3 acknowledged the sensitivity of location data, stating: "Fun aside, we recognize the sensitivity of **location data**, so we've built fine-grained privacy controls right into the application."⁵⁵ Nine 4 5 months later, on November 10, 2009, Google introduced a new "Location History" feature, which 6 would allow users to "store, view, and manage" their own past Latitude locations indefinitely, 7 assuring users that "[o]f course, you can always delete selected history or your entire location history at any time."56 8 9 74. In or around July 2013, Google retired Latitude. Google has not retired Location 10 History. Contrary to the plain language and simple process set forth in the Google support 11 75. 12 pages referenced above (e.g., "With Location History off, the places you go are no longer 13 stored."), in the face of emerging public scrutiny in August 2018 of its location tracking practices, 14 Google was forced to admit for the first time that the Location History setting alone does not 15 prevent the collection of location data, but rather other settings acted in contradiction to Location

History to collect and store a user's *location history*. The first indication that other settings facilitated location tracking regardless of the Location History setting did not come from Google, but rather from other media reports which initially suggested that to *actually* and effectively prevent Google from storing location information, users must navigate to and understand an

additional, deeply-buried and non-obvious setting titled "Web & App Activity." As of the date of

the filing of this complaint, some two years after the controversy arose, Google has still not publicly confirmed that Web & App Activity is the only Google feature which enables storing

23 location data in a user's account when users opt out of Location History.

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⁵⁴ Charles Mendis, *Locate your friends in real time with Google Latitude*, Google Mobile Blog (February 4, 2009) (Ex. 25).

⁵⁵ Vic Gundotra, *See where your friends are with Google Latitude*, Google Official Blog (February 4, 2009) (emphasis added) (Ex. 26).
⁵⁶ Chris Lambert, *Google Latitude*, *now with Location History & Alerts*, Google Mobile Blog

⁵⁶ Chris Lambert, *Google Latitude, now with Location History & Alerts*, Google Mobile Blog (November 10, 2009) (Ex. 27).

76. These initial media reports, and not Google, first suggested that a user could prevent tracking and storage of location information by Google by turning off the "Web & App Activity" setting on her Google account. To do so, reports indicated that a user must sign in to her Google account on a browser (if an iPhone user) or through the Android settings menu (on an Android device). In the browser, she can access her account settings by finding "Google Account" in the dropdown menu in the upper right-hand corner, then select "Personal Info & Privacy," choose "Manage your Google Activity," then click "Go to Activity Controls." Once there, a setting called "Web & App Activity" is revealed, which can then be toggled off. A series of screenshots demonstrating these steps is attached hereto as Exhibit 28.

The AP Report illustrated Google's comprehensive location tracking with Location History turned off, but with "Web & App Activity" enabled, as it is by default, with a visual map of the movements of an Android phone. The map shows the location information that was tracked and stored by Google, and includes the investigator's train commute on two trips to New York and visits to The High Line park, Chelsea Market, Hell's Kitchen, Central Park and Harlem. To protect his privacy, the AP did not plot the most common marker stored by Google—his home address. The map plots time-stamped GPS coordinates from a Google Account, demonstrating that Google repeatedly captured and stored the investigator's locations and movements. For example, over the course of approximately **eight** hours (from 2:18 p.m. to 10:07 p.m.) on July 15, 2018, Google captured 22 different time-stamped coordinates as shown in the images below, with each pinpoint captured that day shown in red.







78. Although multiple media outlets suggested, following publication of the AP Report, that turning off "Web & App Activity" (on top of disabling "Location History") would be effective to prevent the storage of location information, and some attributed the information to Google,⁵⁷ express confirmation of the overall effectiveness of this process seems to be absent

⁵⁷ See, e.g., Emily Dreyfuss, How to Stop Google From Tracking Your Location, Wired (August 13, 2018) ("To actually turn off location tracking, Google says you have to navigate to a setting buried deep in your Google Account called Web & App Activity, which is set by default to share your information, including not just location but IP address and more.") (Ex. 29); Associated Press, Google Found to Track the Location of Users Who Have Opted Out, NBC News (August 13, 2018) ("To stop Google from saving these location markers, the company says, users

from Google-branded webpages. As of the date of this filing nearly two years after the AP Report was published, the Google Support page on the topic still does not definitively confirm that turning off "Web & App Activity" would actually prevent Google from storing specific, time-stamped, precise location information about a user. The page does not state that turning off "Web & App Activity" terminates all storage of users' location data; rather, the page as amended following revelations by the AP now warns that after Location History has been turned off, other Google "sites, apps, and services," collect location information, and "[i]f you have other settings like Web & App Activity turned on" location data may still be saved.⁵⁸

- 79. Although, subsequent to the media reports concerning Google's intentional collection of location data when Location History is off, Google has had to finally admit that Web & App Activity independently collects location data, Google has failed and continues to fail to inform its users whether Web & App Activity is the only Google feature storing location data when users opt out of Location History.
- 80. Web & App Activity is simply the only data capturing tool that Google has been forced to acknowledge to the public, to date. The full scope of Google's geolocation data collection remains a closely guarded secret. As an example, Google also collects location data through users' interaction with Wi-Fi access points. Google suggests that users of its Android devices can exercise control over Google's collection of location data in this manner by turning off a device-level setting called "Wi-Fi Scanning." However, Plaintiffs are informed and believe that Google continues to collect location data through Wi-Fi access points even if a user turns off this setting, and even if a user turns off Location History.⁵⁹
- 81. The AP reported in August 2018 that a Google spokesperson all but acknowledged that Google discerns and stores its users' location histories through additional, as yet

can turn off another setting, one that does not specifically reference location information. Called 'Web and App Activity' and enabled by default, that setting stores a variety of information from

Google apps and websites to your Google account.") (Ex. 30). ⁵⁸ Google Account Help, *Manage Your Location History* (last visited June 24, 2020) (Ex. 31) (emphasis added).

⁵⁹ See, e.g., Complaint in Arizona v. Google LLC, Case No. CV2020-006219 (Az. Sup. Ct. May 27, 2020), at $\P\P$ 72-74 (Ex. 32).

undiscovered, means. The spokesperson reportedly stated, "There are a number of different ways that Google may use location to improve people's experience, *including*: Location History, Web and App Activity, *and* through device-level Location Services." Accordingly, it appears that users may need to adjust even more settings to prevent Google from storing location information, or indeed, it may be that no amount of denying "permissions" to Google would protect one's location information from being stored.

Activity, and the means to disable its function, have been deliberately confusing and misleading. The conflicting array of location-related settings misleads and deceives users of Google's products who have turned off "Location History" into believing that their location information is private, when it is actually being fed into Google's data stores. Making matters worse, Google automatically changes the state of permissions with regard to these various location-date-related controls without notifying users. Through various updates to its products, Google has automatically changed users' location settings and default settings, without notice or consent. In all events, Google has failed to disclose the true state of affairs to Plaintiffs and Class members, and instead affirmatively misrepresented that they could protect their privacy by opting out of having their location information stored.

83. Disabling Web & App Activity in addition to Location History is deliberately presented in counter-intuitive and confusing ways. Google obfuscated that the "Web & App Activity" setting is related to location, and instead represents that it is the "Location History" setting that controls geolocation tracking. Indeed, in Google's description of these "Controls," the "Web & App Activity" setting resides directly *above*—but separate and apart from—the "Location History" option, indicating that settings related to location and those related to web

⁶⁰ AP Report, *supra* n.2 (emphasis added) (Ex. 2).

⁶¹ Arizona v. Google LLC Complaint, supra n.59 (Ex. 32), at ¶¶ 105-128 (The Arizona Attorney General's complaint, which was informed by the opportunity to conduct factual discovery, contains an entire section, mostly redacted from public view, entitled, "Google Automatically Changes the State of Permissions without Notifying Users").

	and app activity are distinct. 62 Further, until at least November 2018, Google's vague description
	of what "Web & App Activity" does—that it "[s]aves your activity on Google sites and apps to
	give you faster searches, better recommendations, and more personalized experiences in Maps,
	Search, and other Google services ³ —would not put a user on notice that it relates to location
	tracking accurate to less than a meter. For a user to obtain any more detail about the "Web &
	App Activity" setting, she had to click through to "[1]earn more," then scroll to what's saved as
	"Web & App Activity," and open a section that is by default collapsed, entitled, "[i]nfo about
	your searches & more" before Google even mentioned that the setting is related to location
	tracking. ⁶⁴ A user therefore had insufficient notice of the storage and tracking of location
	information, particularly in light of separate representations and reporting that the "Location
	History" setting is what allows individuals to control Google's storage and tracking of their
	location information.
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84. Google intentionally hides the nature of its location tracking and obfuscates the opt-out process (if the opt-out process is indeed effective). Before its conduct was uncovered in the AP Report, Google provided at least *three* support pages on location titled: "Manage or delete your Location History," Turn location on or off for your Android device," and "Manage location settings for Android apps." Strikingly, at the time this litigation commenced, none of

⁶² Archived version of Google Account Help, *Activity Controls* (November 3, 2018) (Ex. 33).

^{20 63} *Id.* (Ex. 33). Prior versions of this explanation were even less informative. In October of 2016 and May of 2018 (and, on information and belief, throughout the interim), Google described

[&]quot;Web & App Activity" as a setting that would "Save your search activity on apps and in browsers to make searches faster and get customized experiences in Search, Maps, Now, and other Google products." (Ex. 34). In November 2018, Google revised its description of Web & App Activity to acknowledge that it "[s]aves . . . associated info like location." *See Activity Controls*,

https://myaccount.google.com/intro/activitycontrols (visited November 19, 2018; last visited July 2, 2020).

⁶⁴ These actions would take the user to Google Search Help, *See & control your search activity* available at https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/54068 (visited November 16, 2018, exhibit prepared by Plaintiffs' counsel April 29, 2019); (Ex. 35).

⁶⁵ Archived version of Google Account Help, *Manage or delete your Location History*, (August 16, 2018) (Ex. 11); Revised archived version of same (August 18, 2018) (Ex. 36).

⁶⁶ Archived version of Google Account Help, *Turn location on or off for your Android device* (August 16, 2018) (Ex. 37).

⁶⁷ Android Help, *Manage location settings for Android apps* (July 29, 2018) (Ex. 38).

these made any mention of "Web & App Activity"—to date, the only way identified to *potentially* prevent Google from tracking user location.

E. Google Stores User's Location Data without their Consent to Further its Commercial Interests.

85. The full scale of Google's use, analysis, commercialization and dissemination of the location data it stores has never been adequately disclosed to its users. What is known is that Google's ability to monetize such data is unrivaled even in an industry that routinely profits from surveillance of consumers. Google can use this information in myriad ways for profit, including to sell advertising that is precisely, unprecedently targeted. It can track where and when consumers shop, the establishments they pass once or every day, which restaurants they frequent, the doctors they visit, where they pump their gas.

86. Google acknowledges publicly today—but did not prior to the initiation of this lawsuit—that location information collected even when Location History is off is used for a variety of Google's own purposes, including to target advertising. Google leverages the detailed information it stores about its users, including information about where those users are presently located, where they have been, and where they are likely to be in the future, to drive its

advertising revenues.

87. A platform that can tailor advertisements to consumers based on location data are attractive to marketers. In 2018, a market research firm conducted a survey of manager-level and above marketers at consumer brands and advertising agencies regarding their use of location information. The survey found that 89 percent of respondents increased sales, 86 percent grew their customer base, and 84 percent engaged customers by use of location data. The survey found that the use of location data by consumer brands and advertising agencies will grow from to 94 percent of firms in 2020 (from 84 percent in 2019), with the top use (at 67 percent) being advertising.⁶⁹

⁶⁸ See Google Privacy Policy, supra n.16.

⁶⁹ Lawless Research, *2019 Location-Based Marketing Report*, available at https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e9491b0c2923c644bacc529/t/5ec812b6e3537d3e3e336c09/1590170297097/Factual-2019-Location-Based-Market-Report.pdf (last visited July 1, 2020).

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88. Google's collection of users' historical locations and movements, particularly when combined with the other data in Google's possession, allow it to serve advertisements to consumers who are likely to make a purchase or fit a targeted profile, and thus to charge would-be advertisers more for Google's services than advertising platforms without the same breadth of information about individual consumers could demand. Indeed, the apps and operating systems that Google develops and distributes, such as the apps recording data to Web & App Activity, are designed to attract and maintain users' attention, both in order to generate data informative of consumers' habits and tastes, and also to provide a platform through which Google can serve ads to precisely-targeted audiences. At its core, Google is an extremely profitable advertising company. In its annual report for 2019, Google explained "How we make money"—"We generate revenues primarily by delivering both performance advertising and brand advertising." Alphabet Inc. Form 10-K, 2019, at 6. And, that year, those revenues exceeded \$161 billion. See id. at 51.

89. A central feature of "Google Ads," as the service is currently called, is that it allows prospective advertisers to "Decide where to advertise," promising to "get [their advertisements] in front of the right people." While certain Google account-level settings such as "Ad Personalization" ostensibly provide a modicum of user control over Google's ability to use the data it collects to increase the value of its advertising platform, Google admits that it collects and uses location data to feed users "personalized" ads, regardless of whether such users have turned off Ad Personalization: "With personalization off, ads you see can still be based on general factors, like the subject of what you're looking at, the time of day, *or your general location*." Google in fact discourages users from turning off the Ad Personalization setting, because it generates enormous revenue for Google and is a major revenue stream. Today, if a user attempts to turn off Ad Personalization, he or she will first be led to a warning page,

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⁷⁰ Google Ads (ads.google.com), *How it works* tab (Ex. 39).

⁷¹ Google Ad Settings, Ad personalization (last visited July 2, 2020), available at https://adssettings.google.com. *See also Arizona v. Google LLC* Complaint, *supra* n.59 (Ex. 32), at 3 (discussing "deception in ads personalization" related to Google's Ads Personalization setting, although the details of Google's misconduct are entirely redacted).

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to you"; that the user will "no longer be able to turn off ads from specific advertiser"; and that "Any advertisers or interests you've turned off won't be saved."⁷² 90.

informing the user that: he or she will continue to receive ads, although they will be "less useful

- Stored location information thus unquestionably allows Google to direct advertisements to users in specific geographic locations, users who frequently travel through or near those locations, and users whose profiles and projected behavior patterns—built using data about their movements and locations—suggest they would react to certain advertisements in a way that is profitable to the advertiser, and thus to google. Google offers services for targeting advertisements to users based on the users having been "recently in a location," something that can only be determined when geolocation data is stored.⁷³ In explaining to advertisers how to "[t]arget your ads to people in—or who've shown interest in—geographic locations," Google explains that it may detect users' "location[s] of interest" by evaluating "[a] person's past physical locations."⁷⁴ The data is fundamental to the fees Google sets for its services and Google's resulting profits. It is what enables Google to sell valuable services to third parties.
- 91. At least one way that Google may use location information to serve targeted advertisements to users, irrespective of such users' account settings, is described, inter alia, in its patent for "Generating user information for use in targeted advertising." U.S. Patent No. 9,235,849 (issued Jan. 12, 2016). There, Google describes how "Geolocation information" can be used to serve targeted advertising, and how it "may include information specifying one or more of one or more countries, one or more (inter-country) regions, one or more states, one or more metro areas, one or more cities, one or more towns, one or more boroughs, one or more areas with common zip codes, one or more areas with common telephone area codes, one or more areas served by common cable head end stations, one or more areas served by common network access points or nodes, etc. It may include latitude and/or longitude, or a range thereof. It may include

⁷² Google Ad Settings, Ad personalization (last visited July 2, 2020), available at https://adssettings.google.com.

⁷³ Google Ads Help, *About advanced location options* (last visited June 30, 2020) (Ex. 40).

⁷⁴ Google Ads Help, *About targeting geographic locations* (last visited June 29, 2020) (Ex. 41).

information, such as an IP address, from which a user location can be estimated." *Id.* at § 4.1.4. As demonstrated by the AP Report, the "areas" at issue can be narrowed to show the precise locations of a single individual.

- 92. Relying on Google's '849 patent and a multitude of other sources, Harvard professor Shoshana Zuboff explains how "Google's proprietary methods enable it to surveil, capture, expand, construct, and claim behavioral [data], including data that users intentionally choose not to share." Information users "choose not to share" includes location data that was not meant to be stored after users opted out of Location History.
- 93. Furthermore, building user profiles and generating advertising revenues are not the only lucrative uses to which Google puts the location data it collects without consent. Google also uses location data to "build better services," to "maintain & improve [Google's] services," to "develop new services," and to "measure performance," all of which enables Google to create operational efficiencies and be competitive in a wide array of industries in addition to the marketplace for consumer attention (advertising), where it also excels. Google may also use collections of locations and movements to develop new products in many different fields, including in artificial intelligence, media, public health, finance, real estate, or surveillance and law enforcement.
- 94. Despite the fact that Google uses location data to generate unparalleled returns as an advertising platform, as well as to further cost-saving advances in technological development and otherwise, Google tells consumers something different. In the portion of its current Privacy Policy regarding "Your location information," Google asserts it collects such data for *users*' benefit, to "offer features like driving directions for your weekend getaway or showtimes for movies playing near you."

⁷⁵ Shoshana Zuboff (2019) *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism*, Perseus Books, LLC, at 80 & n.44.

⁷⁶ Google Privacy Policy, supra n.16 (Ex. 10).

⁷⁷ *Id.*, at "Your location information."

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95. As with the extent of the location data it collects and stores, and how the data is stored, Google does not publicly disclose all of the uses to which that data is put, nor the precise measure of Google's profits and other benefits that result. Google has enriched itself at the expense of consumers' individual rights and privacy interests.

F. Google Continues Its Deceptive Behavior.

- 96. Google's users are still being deceived and tracked without consent. As of the date of filing this Consolidated Complaint, if an individual goes to Google's Help Center⁷⁸ and inquires "How can I stop Google Tracking My Location?," the very first answer Google provides is still to "Manage your location history," directing the user to the "Location History" tool, which does *not* stop Google tracking the user's location. None of the immediate results identify every step a user must take to achieve that result; indeed, it is unclear whether a means to truly prevent Google from storing Plaintiffs' and Class members' location data even exists.
- 97. In its initial response to the AP Report on August 13, 2018, Google did not deny storing users' location information in contravention of their settings, but rather defended itself by falsely stating: "We provide clear descriptions of these tools."⁷⁹
- 98. Google's assertion that "clear descriptions" exist is incorrect. First, Google disingenuously and publicly represented that preventing the storage of location data is as easy as turning "off" a settings switch, all the while aware that such action would be ineffective. Google silently endorsed well-known technology periodicals that, as set forth in paragraph 136, propagated Google's falsehood that toggling off "Location History" is an effective tool to prevent tracking. Second, while perpetuating the myth of an effective "Location History" switch, Google failed to make reasonably clear to users that they must take at least one wholly separate, complicated, and poorly-labeled route in order to turn off location tracking (if this route is in fact effective), i.e., locating, identifying, and understanding a deeply-buried and non-obvious setting titled "Web & App Activity." 80

⁷⁸ Google Help, *How can I stop Google Tracking My Location?* (last visited June 24, 2020), search performed at https://support.google.com.

⁷⁹ AP Report, *supra* n.2 (Ex. 2).

This function is set by default to share the user's information, including location.

99. Three days after the AP Report was published, on August 16, 2018, Google reversed course and revised the description on its help page for the "Location History" setting—which previously stated simply "With Location History off, the places you go are no longer stored"—to read:

This setting does not affect other location services on your device, like Google Location Services and Find My Device. Some location data may be saved as part of your activity on other services, like Search and Maps. When you turn off Location History for your Google Account, it's off for all devices associated with that Google Account.

- 100. With this revision, Google disclosed *for the first time* that Google "may" track "some" users even after they have turned "Location History" off.
- 101. Google has since amended its public-facing statements further. In addition to revealing that "[s]ome location data may continue to be saved in other settings," Google now provides more previously-concealed "examples" of how Google "may" collect and store information regardless of a user's Location History permissions, including through the user's "camera app."
- particularly through the use of unclear language such as "some location data" and "may collect and store information." Google fails to clearly and definitively disclose what location data is saved, and when. In January 2019, the French National Data Protection Commission ("CNIL") addressed complaints regarding Google's data collection and use disclosures, and ultimately fined Google €0 million for failing to be transparent as required by the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR"). In its reported findings, CNIL noted, among other things, that relevant information about Google's geolocation tracking practices is "accessible after several steps only," that "information is not always clear nor comprehensive," and that "[u]sers are not able to fully understand the extent of the processing operations carried out."⁸³

⁸¹ Compare Ex. 11 (August 16, 2018 archived version captured at 04:09 a.m.) with Ex. 36 (August 18, 2018 archived version).

⁸² Manage Your Location History, supra n.58 (Ex. 31).

⁸³ CNIL, The CNIL's Restricted Committee Imposes a Financial Penalty of 50 Million Euros

103. In an amendment to its Privacy Policy dated January 22, 2019, Google introduced a new and dramatically different explanation of "Location History." Whereas Google previously and pervasively described Location History as the tool that would "allow" Google to store a history of location data from any source (see *supra* paragraph 45), which users could turn "off" to prevent location data from being stored (see *supra* paragraphs 40-45), Google has now redefined it altogether, as nothing more than "a private map of where you go with your signed-in devices." providing insufficient explanation of its functioning.

104. Further, Google still fails to specify what, if any, location data tracking is ceased when a user turns "Location History" off. Google *still* fails to clearly disclose the "Web & App Activity" setting, and how (and whether) it, or any other number of permissions settings, can be used to effectively prevent Google from recording location information. As discussed at Section VI.F, *infra*, as of the filing of this Consolidated Complaint, when an individual queries Google's Help Center on how to stop Google from tracking location information, Location History is still presented as an effective tool.

G. Google's Storage of Location Data Defies Reasonable Expectations of Privacy and Egregiously Violates Established Social Norms.

105. Each of the following acts defy social norms and invade reasonable privacy expectations: Tracking and storing detailed location information contrary to users' consent, affirmatively misleading users regarding their ability to opt out, and failing to disclose that a history of users' locations are stored in perpetuity. Normally, mobile device and Internet users such as Plaintiffs are able to control the flow of sensitive information about themselves through "settings" and "permissions" that they grant, or withhold, from third parties, particularly private parties such as Google. Plaintiffs' and Class members' expectations that those settings and permissions would be heeded and effective, and that they could travel without creating a record of their movements, are eminently reasonable.

against Google LLC (January 21, 2019) (Ex. 42). In June 2020, the fine was upheld on appeal. ⁸⁴ *Google Privacy Policy, supra* n.16 (Ex. 10). *See also* https://policies.google.com/privacy/archive?hl=en-US (listing of archived Google *Privacy Policies*).

their location information, thus creating the false impression that Class members could use Google's services in a privacy-protective manner. Insofar as Google might need location information to provide class members with Google services such as Google Maps, with Location History disabled, any authorization to access location information for those services would only be granted for a specified, limited, and *transient* purpose. Google gathered location data far in excess of any need to fulfill the limited purposes occasionally authorized by consumers, and thus far in excess of the data Google ever suggested it would collect. Furthermore, by disabling Location History, Plaintiffs directed Google not to store any of their location information for any subsequent access, analysis, or use. Storage creates additional risks of privacy harms, including because if location information is not stored, it cannot subsequently be used. Moreover, the storage of location information creates an individually identifiable, comprehensive record of that person, reflecting a wealth of detail about her associations ranging from familial to political to professional to religious and more.

107. Plaintiffs and Class members took specific steps to protect their privacy and personal security (as well as the privacy and security of their minor children), and made reasonable efforts to stop Google from storing information regarding their whereabouts and day-to-day activities. Based on Google's representations and omissions, context, and industry norms, they expected Google to heed and follow their instructions and, as a result, expected that their whereabouts would be *private*, not stored on Google's servers along with other personally-identifying information and data. Those reasonable expectations were consistent with sentiments that are widely shared in American society and elsewhere, and grounded in long-standing social norms and jurisprudence protecting privacy.

1. Plaintiffs' Expectations of Privacy are Enshrined in Law.

108. Invasion of privacy has been recognized as a common law tort for more than a century. In *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479 (1965), the Supreme Court confirmed the primacy of privacy rights, explaining that the Constitution operates in the shadow of a "right of privacy older than the Bill of Rights." Most recently, the Supreme Court specifically recognized

the reasonable expectation of privacy a person has in the location information generated by her cell phone, in *Carpenter v. United States*, 138 S. Ct. 2206 (2018). For its part, California amended its constitution in 1972 to specifically enumerate a right to privacy in its very first section. *See* Cal. Const. Art. I, § 1.

109. The law provides especially robust protections for geolocation privacy. In 1998, the California Legislature enacted California Penal Code 637.7, which states "No person or entity in this state shall use an electronic tracking device to determine the location or movement of a person." (Cal. Pen. Code, § 637.7 (a)). This measure was accompanied by the statement that reads: "The Legislature finds and declares that the right to privacy is fundamental in a free and civilized society and that the increasing use of electronic surveillance devices is eroding personal liberty. The Legislature declares that electronic tracking of a person's location without that person's knowledge violates that person's reasonable expectation of privacy." (Stats. 1998, ch. 449, § 1).

2. Plaintiffs' Expectations Reflect Widely Held Social Norms.

110. As observed by the Supreme Court in *Carpenter*, a smartphone, tablet, or other mobile device is a constant in many people's lives. Indeed, an Internet-connected digital device is a pre-requisite for modern life, necessary for the full continuum of daily activities, from work to commerce to communication (both professional and personal) to obtaining basic government services. Because of the indispensable nature of connected devices to the entire spectrum of daily life, many Americans carry their mobile devices everywhere they go. In a 2015 study, 94% of smartphone owners said they carry their phone with them frequently, and 82% say they never or rarely turn their phones off. Likewise, Plaintiffs here carry their devices with them on a regular basis throughout the day.

111. In light of the ubiquity of Internet-enabled mobile devices, and in light of those same devices' capacity for near perfect surveillance, society unequivocally has embraced the need to secure and enforce the right of all people to determine for themselves when, and to what extent,

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⁸⁵ Lee Rainie and Kathryn Zickuhr, *Americans' Views on Mobile Etiquette*, Pew Research Center (August 26, 2015) (Ex. 43).

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data produced by these devices regarding peoples' lives and activities will be shared, cataloged, and analyzed.

112. By collecting and storing location data without consumers' awareness or consent, Google has violated social norms that are firmly established in American culture and law. It is widely recognized that "Americans would never consent to a government directive that all citizens carry a device that broadcast, in real time, their physical location and archived that information in repositories that could be shared among powerful, faceless institutions." Musician Mary Milliben, whom the *New York Times* identified based on a trove of location data derived from mobile devices, cautioned, "To know that you have a list of place I have been, and my phone is connected to that, that's scary. What's the business of a company benefiting off of knowing where I am?" 87

"willfully deceptive and unfair acts and practices" by Google, for making it "impractical if not impossible for users to meaningfully opt-out of Google's collection of location information." The Attorney General's complaint reveals that it is has had the benefit of obtaining relevant information from Google pursuant to its investigatory powers, however, the facts learnt from that investigation are being kept hidden from Google's users, as much of the relevant facts have been redacted from the public record. That investigation was followed by the Attorney General's finding as set forth in its complaint that "even with Location History off, Google would surreptitiously collect location information through other settings such as Web & App Activity and use that information to sell ads." The complaint also suggests that there is significant information, known to Google, that has not yet been disclosed in this action. The complaint explains that "Arizona's investigation has revealed that Google's deceptive and unfair conduct

⁸⁶ Charlie Warzel & Stuart A. Thompson, *Where Even the Children Are Being Tracked*, New York Times (December 21, 2019) (Ex. 22).

⁸⁸ Ryan Randazzo, *Arizona attorney general sues Google, alleges the tech giant fraudulently collects users' location data*, azcentral. (May 27, 2020) (Ex. 45).

⁸⁹ Arizona v. Google LLC Complaint, supra n.59 (Ex. 32), at 2.

	extends well beyond its false Location History disclosure," including a "relentless drive" by
	Google to "make it exceedingly hard for users to understand what is going on with their location
	information, let alone opt out of this morass."90 According to the complaint, Location History and
	Web & App Activity are "two of the primary settings through which Google misleads, deceives,
	and conceals material information from consumers," but at least ten additional "settings" may
	relate to Google's collection of location data from mobile devices. 91 The Attorney General found
	that Google's array of settings "misleads and deceives users of Google's products into believing
	that they are not sharing location information when they actually are." Among those are
	"Device-Level" settings such as "Wi-Fi scanning" and "Wi-Fi connectivity" which can be
	switched off, ostensibly to provide user control over Google's ability to track their locations using
	Wi-Fi sensors, but which actually "mislead[] users into providing location to Google even if they
	do not want to," according to the Attorney General's investigation. 93
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consumer expectations, and conduct such as Google's with respect to the collection, storage, and use of personal data. On June 18, 2020, Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio introduced a bill founded upon the longstanding principle that "the right to privacy protects the individual from intrusions into seclusion, protects individual autonomy, safeguards fair use of data that pertains to the individual, [and] advances the just use of data." Senator Brown's Data Accountability and Transparency Act of 2020 would incorporate societal standards into federal law, by prohibiting collection, use, or sharing of personal data except for certain purposes, such as providing a requested good or service. As aptly summarized by Justin Brookman, director for consumer privacy and technology policy at Consumer Reports, the bill would codify the common

⁹⁰ *Id*.

^{25 | &}lt;sup>91</sup> *Id.*, at 11-12, 14.

⁹² *Id.*, at 11-12.

⁹³ *Id.* at 21.

Data Accountability and Transparency Act of 2020, Discussion Draft, available at https://www.banking.senate.gov/download/brown_2020-data-discussion-draft.

July 102 Accountability and Transparency Act of 2020, Discussion Draft, available at https://www.banking.senate.gov/download/brown_2020-data-discussion-draft.

understanding (currently protected at common law) that "[c]ompanies should only use and share personal data to deliver the services and products we ask for." 96

- 115. These social norms and expectations are also well-established outside the United States. As the United Kingdom of Great Britain's Court of Appeal held in a case against Google concerning its unauthorized collection of browser data: "Privacy lies at the heart of liberty in a modern state. A proper degree of liberty is essential for the well-being and development of an individual." *Lloyd v. Google LLC*, [2019] EWCA Civ 1599, at ¶ 49 (2019).
- 116. On November 27, 2018, the same day Forbrukerrådet published its research regarding unethical location tracking practices by Google (*supra*, paragraph 49), seven European consumer organizations—Forbrukerrådet, Consumentenbond (The Netherlands), Ekpizo (Greece), dTest (Czech Republic), Zveza Potrošnikov Slovenije (Slovenia), Federacja Konsumentów (Poland) and Sveriges Konsumenter (Sweden)—filed complaints with their national data protection authorities, alleging practices by Google similar to the allegations herein. In January 2019, the Swedish Data Protection Authority *Datainspektionen* demanded that Google explain why Google's access to the location data of users of mobile users through "Location History" and "Web & App Activity" do not violate the GDPR. On January 21, 2019, Dutch consumer organization Consumentenbond presented Google with a petition signed by more than 50,000 consumers that objected to the secret storage of location information by Google.
- 117. On October 29, 2019 Australia's Competition and Consumer Commission brought suit against Google alleging that misleading representations about Location History and Web & App Activity wrongfully enabled Google to collect, keep, and use "highly sensitive and valuable personal information about consumers' location without them making an informed choice."

⁹⁶ Allison Grande, *Senate Bill Would Curtail Data Use, Create New Privacy Cop*, Law 360 (June 18, 2020) (Ex. 46).

⁹⁷ Press Release, Consumer groups across Europe file complaints against Google for breach of GDPR (November 27, 2018) (Ex. 47).

Datainspektionen, *Request for Reply and Further Clarification to Google LLC* (January 18, 2019) (Ex. 48).

⁹⁹ Janene Pieters, *Dutch Petition against Google's Location Tracking Gets 50,000 Signatures*, Nltimes.nl (January 22, 2019) (Ex. 49).

¹⁰⁰ Rachel Pannett, Google to Face Court on Claims It Misled Australians on Personal Data, The

1	And on February 4, 2020, having received complaints concerning Google's location tracking		
2	practices from numerous European consumer organizations, the Irish Data Protection		
3	Commission announced that it would undertake an independent investigation of whether Google		
4	has a valid legal basis for processing the location data of its users and whether it meets its		
5	transparency obligations. 101		
6	118. Google itself has long acknowledged the importance of user control over privacy		
7	settings. In 2009, when announcing its Latitude location-sharing feature, Google again		
8	emphasized both the sensitivity of location data and the privacy implications: "Fun aside, we		
9	recognize the sensitivity of location data, so we've built fine-grained privacy controls right into		
10	the application." And when Location History was first launched, in 2009, Google promised that		
11	users "can disable it at any time." In September of this year, Google's Chief Privacy Officer		
12	testified to United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation that		
13	"users trust [Google] to keep their personal information confidential and under their control." 104		
14	In testimony on December 11, 2018 at the House Judiciary Committee hearing on Transparency		
15	and Accountability, Google's Chief Executive Officer expressly agreed that geolocation tracking		
16	of consumers (such as Plaintiffs and Class members here) should occur, if at all, only on an opt-in		
17	basis because precise geolocation information is "considered highly, highly sensitive." 105		
18			
19			
20	Wall Street Journal (October 29, 2019) (Ex. 50).		
21	Data Protection Commission launches Statutory Inquiry into Google's processing of location data and transparency surrounding that processing, Irish Data Protection Commission (February		
22	4, 2020) (Ex. 51). 102 See, supra, n.55 (Ex. 26).		
23	¹⁰³ See, supra, n.56 (Ex. 27).		
24	Written Testimony of Keith Enright Chief Privacy Officer, United States Senate Committee or Commerce, Science, and Transportation, <i>Examining Safeguards for Consumer Data Privacy</i> , (September 26, 2018) (emphasis added), at 2 (Ex. 52).		
25	¹⁰⁵ Representative Karen Handel asked: "For years, a Federal Trade Commission, on a bipartisan		
26	basis, has affirmed that precise geolocation information is considered highly, highly sensitive. And that consumers must opt in to that. Do you agree with that?" Google's Chief Executive Officer responded: "Yes, I agree with that." See Testimony of Sundar Pichai, Google Chief		
27	Executive Officer, United States House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, <i>Transparency</i> and Accountability: Examining Google and its Data Collection, use and Filtering Practices		
28	(December 11, 2018) at 53 (Ex. 4).		

119. According to a poll by the Pew Research Center, 93% of adults believe that being in control of who can get information about them is important, and 90% believe that controlling what information is collected about them is important. Additionally, Americans say they do not approve of observation without consent: 88% say it is important that they not have someone watch or listen to them without their permission. 107

- 120. According to a 2013 Pew Research study, "86% of Internet users have tried to be anonymous online and taken at least one step to try to mask their behavior or avoid being tracked." For example, 64% percent of adults claim to clear their cookies and browser histories in an attempt to be less visible online. Such behaviors exemplify people's expectation that their personal information—including their location—will not be tracked by others without their consent or permission, and that settings claiming to allow them to protect such information will be effective.
- 121. A 2010 study comparing the opinions of young adults between the ages of 18 to 24 with other age categories (25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, and 65+) found that a large percentage of young adults were in harmony with older Americans regarding concerns about online privacy, norms, and policy suggestions. For example, 88% of young adults surveyed responded that "there should be a law that requires websites and advertising companies to delete all stored information about an individual"; for individuals in the 45-54 age range, 94% approved of such a law. 111
- 122. The same study noted that "[o]ne way to judge a person's concern about privacy laws is to ask about the penalties that companies or individuals should pay for breaching them."

¹⁰⁶ Mary Madden and Lee Rainie, *Americans' Attitudes About Privacy, Security and Surveillance*, Pew Research Center (May 20, 2015) (Ex. 53).

¹⁰⁷ *Id*.

¹⁰⁸ Lee Rainie, et al., *Anonymity, Privacy, and Security Online*, Pew Research Center (September 5, 2013) (Ex. 54).

^{26 109} *Id.*

¹¹⁰ Chris Hoofnagle, et al., *How Different Are Young Adults from Older Adults When It Comes to Information Privacy Attitudes & Policies*, University of Pennsylvania Scholarly Commons (April 14, 2010) (Ex. 55).

¹¹¹ *Id.* at 11.

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A majority of the 18- to 24-year-olds polled selected the highest dollar amount of punishment ("more than \$2,500") in response to how a company should be fined if it purchases or uses someone's personal information illegally; across all age groups, 69% of individuals opted for the highest fine. Beyond a fine, approximately half of the sample (across all age groups) chose the harshest penalties for companies using a person's information illegally: putting them out of business and imposing jail time. ¹¹²

3. Parents Have a Reasonable and Universal Expectation of Privacy for their Children.

- 123. In surreptitiously and deceitfully tracking and recording individuals' location information, Google tracked minor children, a practice that is especially and universally reviled.
- 124. Parents' interest in the care, custody, and control of their children is perhaps the oldest of the fundamental liberty interests recognized by society. There is a strong tradition of parental concern for the nurture and upbringing of children in light of children's vulnerable predispositions. Our society recognizes that parents should maintain control over who interacts with their children and how, in order to ensure the safe and fair treatment of their children.
- 125. By way of example, American society has expressed heightened concern for the exploitation of children in numerous ways:
- a. At common law, children under the age of eighteen do not have full capacity to enter into binding contracts with others. The law shields minors from their lack of judgment, cognitive development, and experience.
- b. Under state law, children are frequently protected via parental consent requirements. Cal. Civ. Code § 3344 requires "the prior consent of [a] parent or legal guardian" in order for a person to use the name or likeness of a minor under the age of eighteen for advertising purposes. The California Education Code does not allow access to personal data collected from students without parental consent. (Cal. Educ. Code § 49076(a)). Various bills pending before the California State legislature seek to protect parental autonomy over children

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¹¹² *Id.* at 15-16.

engaged in online activities. In addition, the State of California filed an *amicus curiae* brief in *Fraley, et al. v. Facebook, Inc.*, 11-cv-01726 (N.D. Cal., filed Apr. 4, 2011) in which it stated: "Protecting children's information is of particular importance, because of their still-developing capacities and the potential for misuse of their information to affect their futures."

- c. State laws also outright ban certain forms of targeted advertising to children. The California Student Online Personal Information Protection Act ("SOPIPA") requires that operators of mobile applications marketed for use in K-12 schools not engage in "targeted advertising," "amass a profile" of children, or sell children's information, based upon any information, including "persistent unique identifiers" (including geolocation), that the operator has acquired through use of its apps or services.
- d. At the federal level, the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act ("COPPA") protects, *inter alia*, children's Personal Data from being collected and used for targeted advertising purposes without parental consent, and reflects a clear nationwide norm about parents' expectations to be involved in how companies profile and track their children through use of technology.
- 126. Legislative commentary about the need for federal law to provide protections for children provides another expression of society's expectation that companies should not track children's activities without obtaining parental consent. For example, when discussing the need for federal legislation to protect children's privacy—which eventually led to Congress passing COPPA—Senator Richard Bryan (the primary author of the COPPA bill) stated: "Parents do not always have the knowledge, the ability, or the opportunity to monitor their children's online activities, and that is why Web site operators should get parental consent prior to soliciting personal information. The legislation that Senator McCain and I have introduced will *give* parents the reassurance that when our children are on the Internet they will not be asked to give out personal information to commercial Web site operators without parental consent." 113

¹¹³ S. 2326: Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998, Hearing before Senate Subcommittee on Communications, Statement of Sen. Bryan, S. Hrg. 105-1069, at 4 (September 23, 1998) (emphasis added) (Ex. 56).

127.	The advertising industry's own privacy standards, and the self-regulatory agencie
which serve	it, also support enhanced protections for children online, including obtaining parenta
consent. For	example, "[t]he majority of advertisers agree with the statement that parents should
give their per	rmission for the data collection of their children (89.5%) and teenagers (78.9%)." ¹¹⁴

- 128. In the same vein, the Children's Advertising Review Unit, an arm of the advertising industry's self-regulation branch, recommends that companies take the following steps, *inter alia*, to meet consumers' reasonable expectations of privacy and avoid violating the law:
- a. Advertisers have special responsibilities when collecting data from children online. They should take into account the limited knowledge, experience, sophistication and maturity of the audience, and must clearly disclose to website or online service users their information collection and tracking practices, information uses, and the means for correcting or removing the information. These disclosures should be prominent and readily accessible before information is collected.
- b. They should disclose passive means of collecting information from children (*e.g.*, navigational tracking tools, browser files, persistent identifiers, etc.) and what information is being collected.
- c. They must obtain "verifiable parental consent" before they collect, use or disclose personal information to third-parties, except those who provide support for the internal operation of the website or online service and who do not use or disclose such information for any other purpose.
- d. To respect the privacy of parents, they should not maintain in retrievable form information collected and used for the sole purpose of obtaining verifiable parental consent or providing notice to parents, if consent is not obtained after a reasonable time. ¹¹⁵

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¹¹⁴ Kristien Daems, et al., Advertisers' perceptions regarding the ethical appropriateness of new advertising formats aimed at minors, J. Marketing Comms. 8 (2017) (Ex. 57).

¹¹⁵ Children's Advertising Review Unit, *Self-Regulatory Program for Children's Advertising* (2014), at 17 (Ex. 58).

129. Survey research confirms that societal expectations respecting children's rights to be free from unknown location tracking are fundamental. A survey published in 2012 by two leading nonprofit groups, the Center for Digital Democracy and Common Sense Media, found that 91% of both parents and adults believe it is not "OK" for advertisers to collect information about a child's location from that child's mobile phone, and 94% of parents and 91% of adults agree that advertisers should receive the parent's permission before putting tracking software on a child's computer.¹¹⁶

130. By surreptitiously tracking and storing the location information of minor children, and providing misleading and outright deceptive disclosures regarding its practices, Google has breached parents' and their children's reasonable expectation of privacy, in contravention of privacy norms that are reflected in consumer surveys, centuries of common law, state and federal statutes, legislative commentaries, industry standards and guidelines, and scholarly literature.

4. The Federal Trade Commission Has Identified Surreptitious Tracking and Storage of Location Information as a Deceptive Trade Practice.

131. The Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or Agency) has determined that tracking individuals' geolocations without permission (and in contravention of their instructions) is a deceptive trade practice. Indeed, the FTC expressly weighed in on the legality of the very type of behavior complained of herein, and found it to be a deceptive trade practice, in violation of Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

132. In June 2016, the FTC announced that it had entered into a settlement agreement with a mobile advertising company, InMobi PTE, after the Agency charged InMobi with deceptively tracking the locations of hundreds of millions of people without their knowledge or consent in order to serve advertisements tailored to individual people based on where they lived or places they visited.

¹¹⁶ Center for Digital Democracy, New Survey Reveals Strong Support for Updating Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA): Majority express concerns about new marketing and data-collection practices (December 6, 2012), at 1 (Ex. 59).

133. In that highly analogous case, the FTC alleged that InMobi represented to its users that: (i) its advertising software would only track users' locations when they opted in to such tracking, and (ii) it would conduct such tracking in a manner consistent with users' device privacy settings. According to the FTC complaint, however, InMobi was actually tracking consumers' locations whether or not the apps using InMobi's software asked for users' permission to do so, and engaged in tracking even when users explicitly *denied* permission to track and store location information. Its

- 134. As a result of the FTC enforcement action, InMobi agreed to pay \$950,000 in civil penalties and implement a comprehensive privacy program, including a prohibition from collecting individuals' location information without their affirmative express consent and a requirement that InMobi honor consumers' location privacy settings. The company was required to delete all of the user location information it had collected and stored without consent and was prohibited from further misrepresenting its data collection practices. The settlement also required InMobi to institute a comprehensive privacy program to be independently audited every two years for 20 years from the date of settlement.¹¹⁹
- 135. The activities engaged in by Google, as detailed in this complaint, mirror location tracking activities condemned and sanctioned by the FTC.

H. Google's Deception Compounds the Outrageous Nature of its Conduct.

136. Google claimed to offer people a choice when it came to their location information. In stating that users could adjust privacy settings to control whether Google stores their location, Google warranted that it would respect those users' privacy choices. In reality, Google rendered users' choices meaningless: Google stored location data despite the permissions

¹¹⁷ Federal Trade Commission, Mobile Advertising Network InMobi Settles FTC Charges It Tracked Hundreds of Millions of Consumers' Locations Without Permission (June 22, 2016) (Ex. 60).

¹¹⁸*Id*.

Stipulated Order for Permanent Injunction and Civil Penalty Judgment, *United States of America v. InMobi Pte, Ltd.*, Case No. 3:16-cv-3474 (N.D. Cal. [June 22, 2016]) (Dkt. No. 2-1), available at https://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/cases/160622inmobistip.pdf.

and instructions that users provided through those very settings. Google's storage and tracking of users' location information and movement history was surreptitious and purposely deceptive.

- 137. Not only were Google's representations about privacy *likely* to deceive people, Google *did* deceive the billions of people who use its products. Not only did ordinary users, including Plaintiffs, reasonably conclude that turning "Location History" off meant that their location would not be tracked and stored, but sophisticated media professionals who cover developments in technology, as well as knowledgeable computer scientists, academics, and regulators, were also deceived. For example:
- a. Only two weeks before the AP Report was published, a website devoted exclusively to topics concerning mobile devices running on Google's Android platform ("Android Central") published an article titled "How to view your location history in Google Maps," under the heading "How to disable location tracking." In the article, the author—based on Google's misrepresentations—writes, "There's also the option to pause tracking for your account as a whole. To do so, toggle **Location History** to off, and select **OK** in the dialog box that follows. That's all there is to it!" 120
- b. Similarly, the computer security firm Sophos publishes a website dedicated to mobile privacy and security topics, called "Naked Security." In an October 2017 article, the author stated—based on Google's misrepresentations—that preventing Google from tracking you "was as simple as going to Settings > Location (under personal) > Google Location History and selecting 'off'. For comprehensive details on switching off and deleting your location history, go to Google's Manage or delete your Location History page." As discussed in paragraphs 40-45, *supra*, this page instructed users to utilize the "Location History" setting to prevent location tracking.

¹²⁰ Harish Jonnalagadda, *How to view your location history in Google Maps*, Android Central (July 20, 2018) (emphasis in original) (Ex. 61).

¹²¹ Matt Boddv. *The Google tracking feature you didn't know you'd switched on*, NakedSecurity by Sophos (October 3, 2017) (Ex. 62).

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c. An online tutorial on WikiHow, titled "How to Disable Google Location History," explains—based on Google's misrepresentations—that "[w]hen you use some Google products like Google Search and Google Maps, Google collects your location information," and further indicates that the way to disable this location tracking is by following the steps described in paragraphs 41-42, *supra*. This tutorial shows that the authors believed "Location History" was the key to preventing storage of location data, and only referred to the "Web & App Activity" section as a landmark for navigating to "Location History," and not as a setting that implicated the storage or use of location information in any way. Specifically, it stated: "Navigate to 'Location History' section. You can see it under the Web & App Activity segment." ¹²² The article does not indicate that "Web & App Activity" settings control location tracking and storage.

138. Additionally, in the AP Report, multiple sophisticated researchers, regulators, and elected officials stated—based on Google's misrepresentations—that they believed Google's representations concerning the efficacy of the "Location History" setting to be deceitful. They stated that they were unaware that Google tracked individuals even if "Location History" had been turned off. For example, Jonathan Mayer, a Princeton computer scientist and former chief technologist for the Federal Communications Commission's Enforcement Bureau, stated, "If you're going to allow users to turn off something called 'Location History,' then all the places where you maintain location history should be turned off. That seems like a pretty straightforward position to have." 123

139. Lawmakers were misled as well. Senator Mark Warner of Virginia indicated that Google's "corporate practices . . . diverge wildly from the totally reasonable expectations of their users." Representative Frank Pallone of New Jersey called for "comprehensive consumer privacy and data security legislation" in the wake of the AP Report. In response to suggestions by Google's counsel at a recent Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing that Google's storage and

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WikiHow, How to Disable Google Location History (printed on November 19, 2018) (Ex. 63).

¹²³ AP Report, *supra* n.2 (Ex. 2).

¹²⁴ *Id*.

¹²⁵ *Id*.

1	use of location information is "complicated," Senator Josh Hawley stated: "I think when		
2	somebody turns off their user information, their location history, they expect the location tracking		
3	to be off. But it's not in fact. They don't have a way, apparently, to turn it off What's		
4	complicated is you don't allow consumers to stop your tracking of them. You tell them that you		
5	do. You would anticipate that they do. A consumer would have a reasonable expectation based		
6	on what you've told them that they're not being tracked, but in fact you're still tracking it. You're		
7	still gathering the information, and you're still using it."126		
8	VII. <u>CLASS ALLEGATIONS</u>		
9	140. Plaintiffs bring this class action, pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil		
10	Procedure, individually and on behalf of all members of the following classes, which are jointly		
11	referred to throughout this Complaint as the "Class:"		
12	Android Class: All natural persons residing in the United States		
13	who used Android mobile devices and whose location information was stored by Google while "Location History" was disabled.		
14	Apple Class: All natural persons residing in the United States who used Apple mobile devices and whose location information was		
15	stored by Google while "Location History" was disabled.		
1617	Parent Subclass: All parents and/or legal guardians of persons who, while such persons were younger than the age of 18, used mobile devices, and whose location information was stored by		
18	Google while "Location History" was disabled.		
19	141. Plaintiff Patacsil seeks to represent the Android Class and Apple Class; Plaintiffs		
20	Oshana and Mahon seek to represent the Android Class; Plaintiff Gamboa seeks to represent the		
21	Apple Class; and Plaintiff Childs seeks to represent the Parent Subclass.		
22	142. Excluded from each Class are the following individuals: officers and directors of		
23	Google and its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and any entity in which Google has a controlling		
24	interest; and all judges assigned to hear any aspect of this litigation, as well as their immediate		
25	family members.		
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27			
28	¹²⁶ Testimony of Will Devries, <i>supra</i> n.3, at 15-16 (Ex. 3).		

pains to deceive and mislead Plaintiffs (and all Class members) and to conduct its business contrary to their instruction, and contrary to the plain meaning of its own terms of service in favor of surreptitiously and deceitfully storing location information. Google's deceptive and deliberate actions have thwarted and continue to threaten Plaintiffs' (and Class members') ability to exercise control over their own privacy while using their devices. Because the conduct complained of herein is systemic, Plaintiffs and all Class members face substantial risk of the same injury in the future. Google's conduct is common to all Class members and represents a common pattern of conduct resulting in injury to all members of the Class. Plaintiffs have suffered the harm alleged and have no interests antagonistic to any other Class member.

- e. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class. Plaintiffs' interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class members. Furthermore, Plaintiffs have retained competent counsel experienced in class action litigation, consumer protection litigation, and electronic privacy litigation. Plaintiffs' counsel will fairly and adequately protect and represent the interests of the Class. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a)(4) and 23(g) are satisfied.
- f. In acting as above-alleged, and in failing and refusing to cease and desist despite public outcry, Google has acted on grounds generally applicable to the entire Class, thereby making final injunctive relief and corresponding declaratory relief each appropriate with respect to the Class as a whole. The prosecution of separate actions by individual Class members would create the risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual Class members that would establish incompatible standards of conduct for Google.
- g. Injunctive relief is necessary to prevent further unlawful and unfair conduct by Google. Money damages, alone, could not afford adequate and complete relief, and injunctive relief is necessary to restrain Google from continuing to commit its illegal and unfair violations of privacy.

VIII. FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT AND TOLLING

145. The applicable statutes of limitations are tolled by virtue of Defendant's knowing and active concealment of the facts alleged above. Plaintiffs and Class members were ignorant of

1	the information essential to the pursuit of these claims, without any fault or lack of diligence on		
2	their own part.		
3	146. At the time the action was filed, Defendant was under a duty to disclose the true		
4	character,	quality, and nature of its activities to Plaintiffs and Class members. Defendant is	
5	therefore estopped from relying on any statute of limitations.		
6	14	7. Defendant's fraudulent concealment is common to the Class.	
7	IX. <u>C</u>	AUSES OF ACTION ¹²⁷	
8 9		<u>Count One</u> (Intrusion Upon Seclusion)	
10	14	8. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all preceding paragraphs contained herein.	
11	14	9. Plaintiffs and Class members have reasonable expectations of privacy in their	
12	mobile de	vices and their online behavior, generally. Plaintiffs' and Class members' private	
13	affairs inc	elude their locations.	
14	15	0. The reasonableness of such expectations of privacy is supported by Google's	
15	unique po	sition to monitor Plaintiffs' and Class members' behavior through its access to	
16	Plaintiffs' and Class members' private mobile devices. It is further supported by the surreptitious		
17	and non-intuitive nature of Defendant's tracking.		
18	15	1. Google intentionally intruded on and into Plaintiffs' and Class members' solitude,	
19	seclusion,	or private affairs by intentionally and comprehensively tracking their locations and	
20	movemen	ts. Additionally, for members of the Android Parent and Apple Parent Subclasses,	
21	Google's wanton and surreptitious tracking and storing of Subclass members' children's location		
22	information was an intentional intrusion on and into the solitude, seclusion, or private affairs of		
23	Subclass members and their children.		
24	15	2. These intrusions are highly offensive to a reasonable person. This is evidenced by	
25	inter alia,	Supreme Court precedent (most recently and forcefully articulated in the Carpenter	
26			
27	127 On De Plaintiffs	cember 19, 2019, the Court order the dismissal of the claim under CIPA. ECF No. 113. reserve their rights to appeal that order, though they do not reallege their CIPA claim	
28	here.		
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opinion), legislation enacted by Congress and the California legislature, rules promulgated and enforcement actions undertaken by the FTC, petitions and litigation initiated in the United States and abroad, countless studies, op-eds, and articles decrying location tracking, and Google's own statements. Moreover, Google engaged in true tracking of location information deceptively and in direct contradiction of the express instructions of Plaintiffs and the members of the Class. Also supporting the highly offensive nature of Defendant's conduct is the fact that Defendant's principal goal was to surreptitiously monitor Plaintiffs and Class members.

- 153. Plaintiffs and Class members were harmed by the intrusion into their private affairs as detailed throughout this Complaint.
- 154. Google's actions and conduct complained of herein were a substantial factor in causing the harm suffered by Plaintiffs and Class members.
- 155. As a result of Google's actions, Plaintiffs and Class members seek damages and punitive damages in an amount to be determined at trial. Plaintiffs and Class members seek punitive damages because Google's actions—which were malicious, oppressive, and willful—were calculated to injure Plaintiffs and Class members and made in conscious disregard of Plaintiffs' and Class members' rights. Punitive damages are warranted to deter Google from engaging in future misconduct.

<u>Count Two</u> (California Constitutional Right to Privacy)

- 156. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all preceding paragraphs contained herein.
- 157. Plaintiffs and Class members have reasonable expectations of privacy in their mobile devices and their online behavior, generally. Plaintiffs' and Class members' private affairs include their behavior on their mobile devices as well as any other behavior that may be monitored by the surreptitious tracking employed or otherwise enabled by location tracking.
- 158. Google intentionally intruded on and into Plaintiffs' and Class members' solitude, seclusion, right of privacy, or private affairs by intentionally and comprehensively tracking their locations and movements. Additionally, for members of the Parent Subclass, Google's wanton and surreptitious tracking and storing of Subclass members' children's location information was

1	an intentional intrusion on and into the solitude, seclusion, right of privacy, or private affairs of		
2	Subclass members and their children.		
3	159. These intrusions are highly offensive to a reasonable person, because they		
4	disclosed sensitive and confidential location information, constituting an egregious breach of		
5	social norms. This is evidenced by, inter alia, Supreme Court precedent (most recently and		
6	forcefully articulated in the Carpenter opinion), legislation enacted by Congress and the		
7	California legislature, rules promulgated and enforcement actions undertaken by the FTC,		
8	petitions and litigation initiated in the United States and abroad, countless studies, op-eds, and		
9	articles decrying location tracking, and Google's own statements.		
10	160. Plaintiffs and Class members were harmed by the intrusion into their private		
11	affairs as detailed throughout this Complaint.		
12	161. Google's actions and conduct complained of herein were a substantial factor in		
13	causing the harm suffered by Plaintiffs and Class members.		
14	162. As a result of Google's actions, Plaintiffs and Class members seek damages and		
15	punitive damages in an amount to be determined at trial. Plaintiffs and Class members seek		
16	punitive damages because Google's actions—which were malicious, oppressive, and willful—		
17	were calculated to injure Plaintiffs and Class members and made in conscious disregard of		
18	Plaintiffs' and Class members' rights. Punitive damages are warranted to deter Google from		
19	engaging in future misconduct.		
20	Count Three 128		
21	(Unjust Enrichment (Quasi-Contract Claim for Restitution and Disgorgement) or, alternatively, Breach of Contract)		
22	163. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege all preceding paragraphs contained herein.		
23			
24			
25	Google took and retained valuable personal location information belonging to Plaintiffs and Class		
26			
27	Plaintiffs plead this Count contingent on the Court granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave, filed		
28	herewith.		

members when it intentionally and comprehensively tracked their locations and movements without their consent.

- 165. Google was enriched when it utilized Plaintiffs and Class members' location information stored without consent for its own financial advantage to optimize its advertising platform, including by allowing its paying advertisers to target Plaintiffs and Class members for lucrative advertisements based on previous locations they had visited.
- 166. Google was enriched when it utilized Plaintiffs and Class members' location information stored without consent for its own financial advantage to build better services, to maintain and improve Google's services, to develop new services, and to measure performance, all of which enable Google to, and which Google does use, to create operational efficiencies and be competitive in a wide array of industries.
- 167. In exchange for Plaintiffs' and Class members' loss of privacy and the financial benefits Google enjoyed as a result thereof, including, but not limited to, advertising profits, Plaintiffs and Class members received nothing.
- 168. It would be inequitable for Google to retain the benefits it has unjustly received. Therefore, as a result of Google's actions, Plaintiffs and Class members seek an order that Google disgorge the profits and other benefits it has unjustly obtained.
- 169. Alternatively, to the extent Google successfully asserts that the Terms of Service form a binding contract that sufficiently defines the parties' rights regarding Google's use of Plaintiffs' and Class members' location information, thereby rendering a claim for unjust enrichment unavailable (which Plaintiffs deny in the first instance), then Plaintiffs allege that Google's conduct constitutes a breach of any such binding contract. Although Google has amended its privacy policy more than sixteen times in the past six years, it has consistently made representations promising that users control what data Google collects about them through settings that users can customize. For example, Google's Terms of Service incorporate Google's Privacy Policy, and in that Privacy Policy, Google promises that "you can adjust your privacy

1	settings to control what we collect and how your information is used." ¹²⁹ By virtue of Google's		
2	conduct as alleged herein, including the storing of Plaintiffs' and Class members' location		
3	information in contravention of their Location History setting, Google breached the relevant		
4	promises it made in the Terms of Service.		
5	II. PRAYER FOR RELIEF		
6	WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request that judgment be entered against Google and that the		
7	Court grant the following:		
8	A. An order determining that this action may be maintained as a class action under		
9	Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, that Plaintiffs are proper class representatives,		
10	that Plaintiffs' attorneys shall be appointed as Class counsel pursuant to Rule 23(g) of the Federal		
11	Rules of Civil Procedure, and that Class notice be promptly issued;		
12	B. Judgment against Google for Plaintiffs' and Class members' asserted causes of		
13	action;		
14	C. Appropriate declaratory relief against Google;		
15	D. Injunctive relief in the form of, <i>inter alia</i> , an order enjoining Google from		
16	continuing its practice of recording and using Plaintiffs' and Class members' location information		
17	against their instructions;		
18	E. Injunctive relief requiring Google to destroy all data acquired, created, or		
19	otherwise obtained from the unlawful recording and storage of the location information of		
20	Plaintiff and Class members;		
21	F. An order awarding Plaintiffs and the Class members damages, special damages,		
22	general damages, restitution, and disgorgement of profits, benefits, and any other value unjustly		
23	obtained to prevent and/or remedy Google's unjust enrichment;		
24	G. An order requiring Google to pay punitive damages and exemplary damages;		

An order requiring Google to pay pre-judgment and post-judgment interest; H.

I. Reasonable attorney's fees and costs reasonably incurred; and

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¹²⁹ Google Privacy Policy (effective July 1, 2020) (Ex. 10).

1		J.	Any and all other and	further relief to which Plaintiffs and the Class may be
2	entitle	d.		
3	III.	<u>DEM</u>	AND FOR JURY TRI	<u>AL</u>
4		Plaint	iffs hereby demand a tri	al by jury of all issues so triable.
5				
6	Dated	: July 6	5, 2020	Respectfully Submitted,
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