1 2 3 4 5	ZELDES & HAEGGQUIST, LLP AMBER L. ECK (177882) HELEN I. ZELDES (220051) ALREEN HAEGGQUIST (221858) 625 Broadway, Suite 906 San Diego, CA 92101 Telephone: (619) 342-8000 Facsimile: (619) 342-7878 ambere@zhlaw.com helenz@zhlaw.com alreenh@zhlaw.com aarono@zhlaw.com	
7	ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP	
8	RACHEL L. JENSEN (211456) THOMAS R. MERRICK (177987)	
10	San Diego, CA 92101	
10 11	Telephone: (619) 231-1058 Facsimile: (619) 231-7423 rjensen@rgrdlaw.com	
12	tmerrick@rgrdlaw.com	
13	Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class	
14	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
15	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
16 17	TARLA MAKAEFF, et al., on Behalf of Themselves and All Others Similarly Situated,	Case No.: 3:10-CV-00940-CAB(WVG) CLASS ACTION
18	Plaintiffs,	
19	VS.	DECLARATION OF RONALD SCHNACKENBERG IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR CLASS CERTIFICATION
20	TRUMP UNIVERSITY, LLC, et al.,	
21	Defendants.	District Judge: Hon. Cathy Ann Bencivengo Magistrate Judge: Hon. William V. Gallo
22		January Controll. William V. Gallo
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

Exhibit37

- 968 -

Case 3:13-cv-02519-GPC-WVG Document 48-9 Filed 09/22/14 Page 34 of 62

9

10

24

26

28

I Ronald Schnackenberg, hereby declare and state as follows:

- 1. I am a resident of San Francisco, California. If called as a witness, I could and would competently testify as to all facts within my personal knowledge.
- 2. I worked for Trump University from October 2006 through May 2007. My title was Sales Manager. I worked at Trump University's headquarters located at 40 Wall Street, New York, New York. My job duties included selling Trump University programs to all consumers who called to inquire about Trump University, and to sell courses to consumers who attended live events.
- 3. I resigned from my position in May of 2007 because I believed that Trump University was engaging in misleading, fraudulent and dishonest conduct. I found it particularly offensive that, while Trump University claimed it wanted to help consumers make money in real estate, in fact Trump University was only interested in selling every person the most expensive seminars they possibly could.
- 4. For example, at a live event in New York City in April 2007, I spoke to a couple whose names I believe are Chris and Carla (or Clara) Moore. After the hard-sell sales presentation, they were considering purchasing the \$35,000 Elite program. I did not feel it was an appropriate program for them because of their precarious financial condition they had no money to pay for the program, but would have had to pay for the program using his disability income and taking out a loan based upon equity in his apartment. Trump University reprimanded me for not trying harder to sell the program to this couple. Another sales person, I believe his name was Tad Lignell, talked them into buying the \$35,000 seminar after I refused to sell this program to them. I was disgusted by this conduct and decided to resign.
- 5. I never saw Donald Trump at Trump University. In the seven months that I worked at Trump University, I did not see him once.
- 6. In my experience, the primary goal of Trump University was not to educate students regarding real estate investing. The primary focus seemed to make money, as quickly

and easily as possible. An example of this was the drastic discourse they took from their prior line of business.

- 7. Gary Eldred wrote the "Real Estate Investor Training Program," which was an online program with some interactive aspects (conference calls and video conferences). When I accepted a job with Trump University, they were focused on selling the Real Estate Investor Training Program.
- 8. However, around February 2007, the direction of Trump University's business drastically changed to a "live events" and seminars driven by high-pressure front-end salesmen, inexperienced in real estate, making high-pressure sales. If consumers attended the event and did not purchase a seminar, the Trump University sales team followed up with them.
- 9. Trump University's live seminars and events were not based on the content of Eldred's Real Estate Investor Training Program. Instead, Mark Dove, who essentially owns that "front-end high-pressure speaker scam" world, provided speakers, instructors, mentors and salespeople to Trump University, and these people brought with them their own programs, which turned into Trump University's programs.
- 10. I was very uncomfortable with this new direction of business, as I believed it to be very unethical.
- 11. While Trump University claimed that its teachers and mentors were all experts in real estate, I believe that most of the instructors, mentors and coaches had very little or no personal experience in the real estate techniques they were teaching, and that Trump University misrepresented their experiences and successes to the public. I know this because I received complaints from Trump University students about this. For example, David Stamper was a mentor and front end speaker, but his background was in jewelry making and he did not have any personal real estate experience when he was hired by Trump University.
- 12. From the very beginning, Trump University speakers told students to raise their credit card limits so that they could be ready to purchase real estate. In fact, the speakers then

Exhibit37

told students to use their increased credit limits to purchase the next level of Trump University seminar.

- 13. In my position as a sales manager, I received calls from many students after they had taken the Trump University seminars. In my experience, virtually all students who purchased a Trump University seminar were dissatisfied with the program they purchased. To my knowledge, not a single consumer who paid for a Trump University seminar programs went on to successfully invest in real estate based upon the techniques that were taught.
- 14. Trump University's seminars were a scheme involving a constant upsell. Based upon my experience at Trump University, the whole goal of the free seminar was to persuade consumers to sign up for the \$1,500 seminar. Also based upon my experience at Trump University, the whole purpose of the \$1,500 seminar was to get people to sign up for the \$35,000 Elite seminars. And the whole purpose of the \$35,000 Elite seminars was to get people to buy additional books, seminars and products.
- 15. Based upon my personal experience and employment, I believe that Trump University was a fraudulent scheme, and that it preyed upon the elderly and uneducated to separate them from their money.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 16 day of September, 2012, at San Francisco, California.

RONALD SCHNACKENBERC

Exhibit37

- 971 -