| 1 | GERALD P. DODSON (SBN 139602) | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| 2 | jdodson@carrferrell.com | | | | |
| 3 | hhathurst (Januar formall com | | | | |
| | CARR & FERRELL LLP | | | | |
| 4 | Menlo Park, CA 94025 | | | | |
| 5 | Facsimile: (650) 812-3444 | | | | |
| 6 | Attorneys for DR. JAMES M. SWANSON | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | |
| 8 | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT | | | | |
| 9 | NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA | | | | |
| 10 | OAKLAND DIVISION | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | |
| 12 | DR. JAMES M. SWANSON, an individual, | CASE NO. 4:12-cv | v-04579-PJH | | |
| 13 | Plaintiff, | OPPOSITION TO | O ALZA | | |
| 14 | · | CORPORATION | 'S MOTION TO DISMISS ENDED COMPLAINT | | |
| 15 | V. | PURSUANT TO | FEDERAL RULES OF | | |
| 16 | ALZA CORPORATION, a corporation, | | URE 12(b)(1) & 12(b)(6) | | |
| | Defendant. | DATE: TIME: | February 13, 2013 9:00 a.m. | | |
| 17 | | COURTROOM: JUDGE: | 3, 3 rd Floor Hon. Phyllis J. Hamilton | | |
| 18 | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | |
| 20 | | | | | |
| 21 | | | | | |
| 22 | | | | | |
| 23 | | | | | |
| 24 | | | | | |
| 25 | | | | | |
| 26 | | | | | |
| 27 | | | | | |
| 28 | | | | | |

1 TABLE OF CONTENTS 2 INTRODUCTION......1 I. 3 LEGAL STANDARDS......2 II. Subject Matter Jurisdiction under Rule 12(b)(1) of the Federal Rules of A. 4 Civil Procedure _____2 5 B. 6 ARGUMENT5 III. Dr. Swanson has Standing to Sue for Correction of Inventorship under 7 A. 8 Dr. Swanson has Standing to Sue for a Declaration of Patent Invalidity В. and Unenforceability (Counts 7-8)8 9 ALZA Does Not Challenge Dr. Swanson's Fraud Claim (Count 2)12 C. 10 Legal Precedent Supports Dr. Swanson's Breach of Fiduciary Duty D. 11 Claim Against ALZA (Count 3)12 Dr. Swanson's FAC Properly Pleads His Fraudulent Concealment Claim 12 E. Against ALZA (Count 4) 14 13 Dr. Swanson's Unfair Competition Claim is Supported by California F. 14 ALZA Concedes that California Case Law Supports Dr. Swanson's G. 15 16 Dr. Swanson is Legally Entitled to a Declaration of Ownership (Count 9) 18 H. 17 Dr. Swanson's Constructive Trust Claim is a Proper Remedy for the I. 18 IV. 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

1 TABLE OF AUTHORITIES 2 **CASES** 3 Am. Prairie Constr. Co. v. Hoich 560 F.3d 780, 797 (8th Cir. S.D. 2009)2 4 5 Ashcroft v. Igbal 556 U.S. 662, 129 S. Ct. 1937, 1949, 173 L. Ed. 2d 868 (2009)......4 6 Augustine v. United States 7 8 Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep't 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1990)4 9 Bd. of Trs. of the Leland Stanford Junior Univ. v. Roche Molecular Sys. 10 11 Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly 12 550 U.S. 544, 570, 127 S. Ct. 1955, 167 L. Ed. 2d 929 (2007)......4 13 Brown v. Federation of State Med. Bds. of the United States 14 Burroughs Wellcome Co. v. Barr Lab., Inc. 15 40 F.3d 1223, 1227 (Fed. Cir. 1994)......11 16 Chou v. Univ. of Chi. & Arch Dev. Corp. 17 18 Communist Party of U.S. v. 522 Valencia, Inc. 35 Cal. App. 4th 980, 41 Cal. Rptr. 2d 618, 623 (Cal. Ct. App. 1995)20 19 County of San Bernardino v. Walsh 20 21 DDB Techs., L.L.C. v. MLB Advanced Media, L.P. 517 F.3d 1284, 1290 (Fed. Cir. 2008)......19 22 23 Ebeid ex rel. United States v. Lungwitz 616 F3d 993, 998 (9th Cir. 2010)19 24 FMC Corp. v. Guthery 25 26 General Bedding Corp. v. Echevarria, et al. 27 28

Case4:12-cv-04579-PJH Document49 Filed12/28/12 Page4 of 27

| 1 2 | Hirsch v. Bank of America 107 Cal. App. 4th 708, 722 (Cal. App. 1st Dist. 2003)17 |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 3 | In re First Alliance Mortg. Co. 471 F.3d 977, 995 (9th Cir. 2006)16 |
| 5 | In re iPhone Application Litig. 844 F. Supp. 2d 1040 (N.D. Cal. 2012)16 |
| 6 7 | Jablon v. Dean Witter & Co. 614 F.2d 677, 682 (9th Cir. 1980)4 |
| 8 | Jim Arnold Corp. v. Hydrotech Sys. 109 F.3d 1567, 1572 (Fed. Cir. 1997)19 |
| 9 | Kucharczyk v. Regents of the Univ. of Cal. 946 F. Supp. 1419, 1426-1427 (N.D. Cal. 1996) |
| 11 12 | Larson v. Correct Craft Inc. 569 F.3d 1319, 1326-7 (Fed. Cir. 2009)7 |
| 13 | LiMandri v. Judkins 52 Cal. App. 4th 326, 336 (1997)14 |
| 14 15 | Link v. Wabash R.R. 370 U.S. 626, 633-34, 82 S. Ct. 1386, 8 L. Ed. 2d 734 (1962)13 |
| 16 17 | Lobato v. Bank of Am. 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 42950, 2-3 (N.D. Cal. May 3, 2010 |
| 18 | Lopez v. Smith 203 F.3d 1122, 1129 (9th Cir. 2000)4 |
| 19 20 | Lozano v. AT & T Wireless Servs., Inc. 504 F.3d 718, 731 (9th Cir. 2007)16 |
| 21 | Maryland Casualty Co. v. Pacific Coal & Oil Co. 312 U.S. 270, 273, 61 S. Ct. 510, 85 L. Ed. 826 (1941)10 |
| 23 | Mattel, Inc. v. MGA Entm't, Inc. 616 F.3d 904, 908-909 (9th Cir. Cal. 2010)20 |
| 2425 | Maxwell v. Stanley Works 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 98913, 9-10 (M.D. Tenn. July 11, 2006)11 |
| 2627 | MB Fin. Group, Inc. v. United States Postal Serv. 545 F.3d 814, 819 (9th Cir. Cal. 2008)12 |
| 28 | |

Case4:12-cv-04579-PJH Document49 Filed12/28/12 Page5 of 27

| 1 2 | MedImmune, Inc. v. Genentech, Inc. 549 U.S. 118, 127 (U.S. 2007) |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 3 | Moss v. U.S. Secret Serv. 572 F.3d 962, 969 (9th Cir. 2009) |
| 5 | MyMail, Ltd. v. Am. Online, Inc. 476 F.3d 1372, 1376 (Fed. Cir. 2007)19 |
| 6 7 | Neal v. Xerox Corp. 991 F. Supp. 494, 500 (E.D. Va. 1998) |
| 8 | O2 Micro Int'l Ltd. v. Beyond Innovation Tech. Co. 449 Fed. Appx. 923, 930 (Fed. Cir. 2011) |
| 9 | Pannu v. Iolab Corp. 155 F.3d 1344, 1349, 47 U.S.P.Q.2D (BNA) 1657, 1662 (Fed. Cir. 1998)5 |
| 11 12 | Pei-Herng Hor v. Ching-Wu Chu 2012 U.S. App. LEXIS 23387, 6-7 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 14, 2012). |
| 13 | Pioneer Inv. Services Co. v. Brunswick Assoc. Ltd. Partnership 507 U.S. 380, 396, 123 L. Ed. 2d 74, 113 S. Ct. 1489 (1993) |
| 14 15 | Pomeroy v. United States 39 Fed. Cl. 205, 209-210 (Fed. Cir. 1997) |
| 16 17 | Roberts v. Lomanto 112 Cal. App. 4 th 1553, 1562 (2003) |
| 18 | Robertson v. Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc. 749 F.2d 530, 533-34 (9th Cir. 1984) |
| 19 20 | Rubio v. Capital One Bank 613 F.3d 1195, 1203 (9th Cir. 2010) |
| 21 | Savage v. Glendale Union High Sch. Dist. No. 205 343 F.3d 1036, 1040 (9th Cir. 2003)3 |
| 23 | Sensitron, Inc. v. Wallace 504 F. Supp. 2d 1180 (D. Utah 2007)11 |
| 2425 | Shum v. Intel Corp. 630 F. Supp. 2d 1063, 1079 |
| 26 27 | Stark v. Advanced Magnetics 119 F.3d 1551, 1555-1556 (Fed. Cir. 1997) |
| 28 | |

Case4:12-cv-04579-PJH Document49 Filed12/28/12 Page6 of 27 1 Supermail Cargo, Inc. v. United States 68 F.3d 1204, 1206 (9th Cir. 1995)4 2 Tolliver v. Northrop Corp. 3 4 United States v. 8136 S. Dobson St. 5 6 United States v. Hoyts Cinemas Corp., 380 F.3d 558, 570 (1 st Cir. 2004)......2 7 University of Colo. Found., Inc. v. American Cyanamid Co. 8 9 Usher v. City of Los Angeles 10 11 Walling v. Beverly Enters. 12 **STATUTES** 13 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 14 15 16 Rule 12(b)(1)......2, 3 Rule 12(b)(6)......passim 17 Rule 12(e)......17 18 19 20 Fed. R. Evid. 21 Rule 201(e)......2 22 35 U.S.C. 23 Section 102......1 24 Section 256.....passim

25

26

27

28

Cal. Civ. Code

Case4:12-cv-04579-PJH Document49 Filed12/28/12 Page7 of 27 **RULES** California Practice Guide: Practice Guide: Federal Civil Procedure Before Trial § 9:85.3 (The Rutter Group 2012)3

I. INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff, Dr. James M. Swanson ("Dr. Swanson"), is Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics at the University of California Irvine. (First Amended Complaint, "FAC" ¶ 7). Dr. Swanson began his employment with the University of California Irvine ("UC") on June 1, 1980. *Id.* Dr. Swanson brings this action under § 256 of the Patent Laws to correct inventorship on ALZA Corporation's ("ALZA's") U.S. Patent No. 6,930,129 ("the '129 patent"), entitled "Methods and Devices for Providing Prolonged Drug Therapy," U.S. Patent No. 8,163,798 ("the '798 patent"), entitled "Methods and Devices for Providing Prolonged Drug Therapy," and U.S. Patent No. 6,919,373 ("the '373 patent"), entitled "Methods and Devices for Providing Prolonged Drug Therapy," collectively "ALZA's patents." FAC ¶ 9-11. ALZA's patents cover the manufacture of the drug CONCERTA® for the treatment of Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder ("ADHD") in children 6 years of age and older, adolescents, and adults up to age 65. FAC ¶ 6, 17.

Dr. Swanson had spent more than fifteen years engaged in the study and treatment of ADHD prior to meeting with anyone from ALZA on December 6, 1993 about this disorder. Dr. Swanson's research prior to meeting with ALZA focused on the treatment of ADHD in children, the subject matter of ALZA's patents. FAC ¶ 37. Through his research, Dr. Swanson developed procedures for monitoring the cognitive effect of stimulant medication using methylphenidate, and Dr. Swanson participated in pioneering the development of improved methods for measuring the plasma concentration of methylphenidate and its metabolite, in order to relate plasma concentrations to clinical efficacy. He also collaborated on the biochemical and genetic factors related to ADHD. *Id.* Before the December 1993 meeting at ALZA in Palo Alto, CA no one at ALZA was an expert or had much knowledge about ADHD or treatment for the disorder. FAC ¶ 51. At the December 1993 meeting, Dr. Swanson gave a comprehensive overview of his prior fifteen years of experience working with the treatment of children with ADHD, including his recommendations for treatment. *Id.*

Dr. Swanson brings this action: (a) to correct inventorship under 35 U.S.C. § 256, (b) for fraud, (c) for breach of fiduciary duty, (d) for fraudulent concealment, (e) for unfair competition, (f) to compensate Dr. Swanson for ALZA's unjust enrichment, (g) for invalidity under 35 U.S.C. § 102

(f), (h) for a declaration of unenforceability for inequitable conduct in patent procurement, (i) for a declaration of ownership of the patents at issue, and (j) for a constructive trust of the patents-in-suit. 2 FAC ¶ 1. ALZA has moved to dismiss Dr. Swanson's FAC pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 12(b)(1) and 12(b)(6). (ALZA's Motion to Dismiss "Mot. at 1.") Dr. Swanson files this 4 opposition to ALZA's motion to dismiss.

6

7

5

1

3

LEGAL STANDARDS II.

8

Subject Matter Jurisdiction under Rule 12(b)(1) of the Federal Rules A. of Civil Procedure.

9 10

entire FAC due to a lack of subject matter jurisdiction over both the federal and state claims. Mot.

ALZA attempts to make a "factual" Motion under Rule 12(b)(1) to dismiss Dr. Swanson's

11

at 1-2. ALZA premises its "factual" motion entirely upon the 1993 Consulting Agreement, for

12

which it requests judicial notice. Mot. at 7, fn. 1. Dr. Swanson disputes the validity of the 1993

13

Consulting Agreement due to the fraudulent manner in which it was procured. FAC ¶¶ 107-158.

14 15 ALZA's failure to challenge this assertion in its Motion to Dismiss casts further doubt on the validity of the 1993 Consulting Agreement. Accordingly, Dr. Swanson objects to ALZA's request

16

for judicial notice of the 1993 Consulting Agreement and objects to its use for converting a Rule

17

12(b)(1) facial motion into a Rule 12(b)(1) factual motion.¹

18 19

Rule 12(b)(1) motion to dismiss into a factual motion by presenting affidavits or other evidence

Notwithstanding the above, Dr. Swanson agrees that once the moving party has converted a

20

properly brought before the court, the party opposing the motion must furnish affidavits or other

21

evidence necessary to satisfy its burden of establishing subject matter jurisdiction. Savage v.

22

Glendale Union High Sch. Dist. No. 205, 343 F.3d 1036, 1040 (9th Cir. 2003).

23 24

25

"When taking judicial notice of adjudicative facts, the judge is required to use the procedures set forth in Fed. R. Evid. 201. 'One of the requirements of Rule 201 is procedural, namely, that the parties be given notice and an opportunity to object to the taking of judicial notice.' United States v. Hoyts Cinemas Corp., 380 F.3d 558, 570 (1st Cir. 2004); see also Fed. R. Evid. 201(e) ('On timely request, a party is entitled to be heard on the propriety of taking judicial notice and the nature of the fact to be noticed. If the court takes judicial notice before notifying a party, the party, on request, is still entitled to be heard.')." Am. Prairie Constr. Co. v. Hoich, 560 F.3d 780, 797 (8th Cir. S.D. 2009).

26 27 28

Case4:12-cv-04579-PJH Document49 Filed12/28/12 Page10 of 27

In ruling on a challenge to subject matter jurisdiction, Dr. Swanson also agrees that the district court is ordinarily free to hear evidence regarding jurisdiction and to rule on that issue prior to trial, resolving factual disputes where necessary. *Augustine v. United States*, 704 F.2d 1074, 1077 (9th Cir. 1983). But Dr. Swanson does not agree that in all such circumstances, as ALZA asserts "no presumptive truthfulness attaches to plaintiff's allegations." Mot. at 3. If this Court holds no evidentiary hearing on subject matter jurisdiction challenged under Rule 12(b)(1), the Court must accept as true the factual allegations in Dr. Swanson's FAC. *McLachlan v. Bell*, 261 F.3d 908, 909 (9th Cir. 2001).²

Moreover, where the jurisdictional issue and substantive issues are so intertwined that the question of jurisdiction is dependent on the resolution of factual issues going to the merits, as is the case here, the Ninth Circuit has said that the jurisdictional determination should await a determination of the relevant facts on either a motion going to the merits or at trial. *Augustine*, 704 F.2d at 1077.

Importantly, if the Court should decide to rule on a subject matter jurisdictional motion involving factual issues which also go to the merits, the Court should employ the standard applicable to a motion for summary judgment, as a resolution of the jurisdictional facts is akin to a decision on the merits. *Id.* Therefore, the moving party, here ALZA, should prevail only if the material jurisdictional facts are not in dispute. Unless that standard is met, the jurisdictional facts must be determined at trial by the trier of fact. *Id.*

By separate motion, Dr. Swanson requests an evidentiary hearing and discovery on ALZA's motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(1) for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. See William W. Schwarzer et al., California Practice Guide: Practice Guide: Federal Civil Procedure Before Trial § 9:85.3 (The Rutter Group 2012) (if the defendant challenges subject matter jurisdiction factually, plaintiff's request for an evidentiary hearing is appropriate).

B. Legal Standard under Rule 12(b)(6).

Pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) a complaint may be dismissed against a defendant for failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted. Dismissal may be based on either the lack of a cognizable legal theory or the absence of sufficient facts alleged under a cognizable legal theory. *Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep't*, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1990); *Robertson v. Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc.*, 749 F.2d 530, 533-34 (9th Cir. 1984). For purposes of evaluating a motion to dismiss, the court "must presume all factual allegations of the complaint to be true and draw all reasonable inferences in favor of the nonmoving party." *Usher v. City of Los Angeles*, 828 F.2d 556, 561 (9th Cir. 1987). Any existing ambiguities must be resolved in favor of the pleading. *Walling v. Beverly Enters.*, 476 F.2d 393, 396 (9th Cir. 1973).

A statute of limitations defense may be raised by a motion to dismiss "[i]f the running of the statute is apparent on the face of the complaint." *Jablon v. Dean Witter & Co.*, 614 F.2d 677, 682 (9th Cir. 1980); *see Supermail Cargo, Inc. v. United States*, 68 F.3d 1204, 1207 (9th Cir. 1995) ("[A] complaint cannot be dismissed unless it appears beyond doubt that the plaintiff can prove no set of facts that would establish the timeliness of the claim.")

The complaint must plead "enough facts to state a claim [for] relief that is plausible on its face." *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 570, 127 S. Ct. 1955, 167 L. Ed. 2d 929 (2007). A claim is plausible on its face "when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged." *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678, 129 S. Ct. 1937, 1949, 173 L. Ed. 2d 868 (2009). Thus, "for a complaint to survive a motion to dismiss, the non-conclusory 'factual content,' and reasonable inferences from that content, must be plausibly suggestive of a claim entitling the plaintiff to relief." *Moss v. U.S. Secret Serv.*, 572 F.3d 962, 969 (9th Cir. 2009). Courts may dismiss a case without leave to amend if the plaintiff is unable to cure the defect by amendment. *Lopez v. Smith*, 203 F.3d 1122, 1129 (9th Cir. 2000).

III. ARGUMENT

A. Dr. Swanson has Standing to Sue for Correction of Inventorship under 35 U.S.C. § 256 (Count 1).

Chou argued that a reputational interest alone was enough to satisfy the requirements of Article III standing. The Court said that was not implausible, opining that being considered an

ALZA argues first that if Dr. Swanson is correct that he should be named as an inventor on three ALZA patents (the '129, '373 and '798 patents), he agreed to assign all interest in the patents to UC or to ALZA and consequently he has no financial interest in the ownership of these patents and therefore no standing to assert his correction of ownership claim. Mot. at 4-5. For this proposition, ALZA immediately crops paragraph 8 of Dr. Swanson's FAC to exclude the portion of Dr. Swanson's allegation that in return for his assignment of his inventions to UC, Dr. Swanson was entitled to receive a royalty for his inventions. *Id.*, FAC ¶ 8.

Dr. Swanson's standing to bring this action under 35 U.S.C. § 256 is well-established by the teachings and holding of *Chou v. Univ. of Chi. & Arch Dev. Corp.*, 254 F.3d 1347, 1358 (Fed. Cir. 2001). In *Chou*, the Federal Circuit held that a graduate student and post-doctoral research assistant at the University of Chicago's Department of Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology from 1983 to 1996 had standing to sue for correction of inventorship of patents under 35 U.S.C.§ 256. The Federal Circuit said that "the question whether a putative inventor who is obligated to assign her invention to another is entitled to sue for correction of inventorship under § 256 is one of first impression for the court...." *Chou*, 254 F.3d at 1358. The Court announced:

We conclude that an expectation of ownership of a patent is not a prerequisite for a putative inventor to possess standing to sue to correct inventorship under § 256. The statute imposes no requirement of potential ownership in the patent on those seeking to invoke it. We have previously interpreted § 256 broadly as a "savings provision" to prevent patent rights from being extinguished simply because the inventors are not correctly listed. *Pannu v. Iolab Corp.*, 155 F.3d 1344, 1349, 47 U.S.P.Q.2D (BNA) 1657, 1662 (Fed. Cir. 1998). The same considerations apply here. Chou should have the right to assert her interest, both for her own benefit and in the public interest of assuring correct inventorship designations on patents. The interest of both inventors and the public are thus served by a broad interpretation of the statute. *Id*.

Case4:12-cv-04579-PJH Document49 Filed12/28/12 Page13 of 27

inventor of important subject matter is a mark of success in one's field, comparable to being an author on an important scientific paper, adding that pecuniary consequences may well flow from being designated an inventor. *Id.* at 1359. But the Court declined to decide the issue because Chou had alleged a concrete financial interest in the patent. *Id.* Chou claimed that the University was obligated to provide faculty members 25% of gross royalties and up-front payments from licensing activities. *Id.* The Court found that if Chou had been deprived of an interest in proceeds from licensing the invention then she had injury in fact. The Court determined that Chou was entitled to sue for correction of inventorship under § 256.

Like Chou, Dr. Swanson, as a condition of his employment at UC, agreed to assign all rights to his inventions to UC. Paragraph 8 of the FAC states in its entirety:

8. On June 1, 1980, per the standard practice of most institutions of higher learning, Dr. Dr. Swanson agreed to assign all rights to his inventions to The Regents of the University of California ("The Regents"). In return for his assignment, Dr. Dr. Swanson was entitled to receive a royalty for his inventions.

ALZA argues that Dr. Swanson does not fall within the teachings and holding of Chou because "he does not specify if the referenced royalty entitlement was a percentage running royalty, a lump-sum royalty, or a *de minimus* payment of \$1 for all inventions." Mot. at 6. Although Dr. Swanson contends that paragraph 8 of the FAC is sufficient on its face to establish that Dr. Swanson's entitlement to receive a royalty in exchange for his inventions is a showing of a concrete financial interest sufficient to establish standing, Dr. Swanson nonetheless has attached the University Patent Agreement he executed on June 1, 1980 as further evidence of his concrete financial interest. See Ex. 1. to Declaration of K. Brian Bathurst in Support of Opposition to ALZA Corporation's Motion to Dismiss the First Amended Complaint ("Bathurst Decl."). That agreement expressly incorporates the University's Policy Regarding Patents. The Patent Policy entitled Dr. Swanson to 50% of the royalties and fees received by The Regents after a deduction of

-6-

Dr. Swanson respectfully requests that the Court take judicial notice of the University Patent Agreement that is attached as Ex. 1 to the Bathurst Decl.

3 4

5 6

7

9 10

12

11

13 14

15 16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23

24 25

26

27

28

15% for overhead plus a reduction for costs of protecting patent rights. See Bathurst Decl. ¶ 2 Ex 1. The Patent Policy is an official policy of the University, with the full force and effect of statute. Kucharczyk v. Regents of the Univ. of Cal., 946 F. Supp. 1419, 1426-1427 (N.D. Cal. 1996).

ALZA next argues that Larson v. Correct Craft Inc., 569 F.3d 1319, 1326-7 (Fed. Cir. 2009) is authority for dismissal of Dr. Swanson's FAC. In Larson, unlike here, the putative inventor assigned all of his interest in the invention to Correct Craft. Id. As a result, the Court found that there was no Article III case or controversy. But, importantly here, Dr. Swanson did not assign all of his interest in his inventions to either UC or ALZA. Therefore, Larson is not controlling.

It is true that Dr. Swanson asserts that he and not UC now owns his rights to the patents-insuit and that he has agreed to provide UC "a certain percentage of any recovery from this action" in return for his ownership of the inventorship rights. FAC ¶¶ 12-13. On October 24, 2012, as a result of a request by Dr. Swanson, UC assigned back to Dr. Swanson any invention rights he may have in the patents-in-suit in return for a percentage of any recovery from this action. See Bathurst Decl. ¶ 3 Ex 2.

ALZA also baldly asserts that because of a consulting agreement between ALZA and Dr. Swanson "[it] is thus clear that whatever inventions Swanson believes he brought to ALZA are ALZA's property if they relate to the consultancy..." Mot. at 7. ALZA apparently is contending that Dr. Swanson could have invented the inventions in the '129 patent, the '798 patent and the '373 patent prior to ever consulting with ALZA and ALZA still owns those inventions because of a subsequent consulting agreement between the parties. ALZA is apparently interpreting the consulting agreement as assigning to ALZA any inventions that Dr. Swanson conceived of prior to ever meeting with ALZA and brought to ALZA at the first meeting between the parties on December 6, 1993. FAC ¶¶ 42-46. This is contrary to the University Patent Policy described above which vests with UC, Dr. Swanson's invention rights regardless of when the inventions were conceived as a condition of his employment with the university. See Bathurst Decl. ¶ 2 Ex 1. Moreover, Dr. Swanson maintains that the consulting agreement was procured through fraud as

alleged in Count 2 of the FAC and ALZA has not moved to dismiss Count 2 for any pleading deficiencies under Rule 12(b)(6). Mot. at 10. FAC ¶¶ 107-123.

Ultimately, the subject matter jurisdictional question that ALZA has raised under Rule 12(b)(1) is inextricably intertwined with the merits of this case. Whether the Court has subject matter jurisdiction depends upon whether Dr. Swanson can prove that he is an inventor on ALZA's patents. See Augustine, 704 F.2d at 1077 ("Whether the court has subject matter jurisdiction depends upon when Augustine's claim 'accrued'....") As more fully set forth in Dr. Swanson's FAC, Dr. Swanson contends that he is responsible for the conception of the inventions forming the subject matter of the '129 patent, the '798 patent and the '373 patent. FAC ¶ 102. Section 256 of the Patent Laws creates a private cause of action to correct inventorship in an issued patent:

Whenever through error a person is named in an issued patent as the inventor, or through error an inventor is not named in an issued patent and such error arose without any deceptive intention on his part, the Director may, on application of all the parties and assignees, with proof of the facts and such other requirements as may be imposed, issue a certificate correcting such error.

The error of omitting inventors or naming persons who are not inventors shall not invalidate the patent in which such error occurred if it can be corrected as provided in this section. The court before which such matter is called in question may order correction of the patent on notice and hearing of all parties concerned and the Director shall issue a certificate accordingly. 35 U.S.C. § 256 (2006).

Pei-Herng Hor v. Ching-Wu Chu, 2012 U.S. App. LEXIS 23387, 6-7 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 14, 2012). If Dr. Swanson is able to prove by clear and convincing evidence that he conceived of the ALZA inventions, he has a right to a Court ordered correction of these patents under § 256 of the Patent Laws and there is a corresponding concrete financial benefit that flows from that determination of inventorship. Dr. Swanson has standing to sue pursuant to § 256 for correction of inventorship under Article III of the Constitution and applicable case law.

B. Dr. Swanson has Standing to Sue for a Declaration of Patent Invalidity and Unenforceability (Counts 7-8).

ALZA argues that Count 7 concerning Dr. Swanson's allegations that the Court should invalidate the '129 patent, the '798 patent and the '373 patent for failure to list the proper inventors and Count 8 concerning Dr. Swanson's allegations that the Court should declare the patents

unenforceable for inequitable conduct should be dismissed because both counts depend on Dr. Swanson's inventorship status and should be dismissed because he lacks standing to bring an inventorship claim. As demonstrated above, Dr. Swanson has standing under § 256 to bring this action to correct inventorship or at a minimum such determination should await fact finding on the merits. Second, ALZA argues that Dr. Swanson has no legal interest in a determination that the patents are invalid or unenforceable and therefore no standing to bring these claims. Mot. at 8.

Dr. Swanson only became aware of the claims of the '129 patent at his April 12, 2011 deposition in ALZA's case against Kremers Urban, LLC, Case No. 10-23-LPS, filed on January 8, 2010 in the District of Delaware ("Kremers Litigation"). FAC ¶ 32. Prior to this, Dr. Swanson had no knowledge of the '129 patent. Dr. Swanson was never consulted about the '129 patent or interviewed about his unique contributions to the inventions contained in the '129 patent. As of the time of his April 12, 2011 deposition, Dr. Swanson had no knowledge of the claims of the '373 and '798 patents, nor did he have knowledge of the claims of any of the underlying provisional patent applications. FAC ¶ 32.

Dr. Swanson was surprised when he found out after his April 12, 2011 deposition that six of the named inventors on the '129 patent, including Andrew C. Lam, who was key to modifying the OROS® osmotic pump technology, which Dr. Swanson thought was the basis for the patent, were removed from the '129 patent. When Dr. Swanson heard that the primary claim of the '129 patent was based on achieving a "substantially ascending methylphenidate plasma drug concentration" and not about the drug delivery technology, Dr. Swanson realized that his own ideas from the first meeting at ALZA in Palo Alto, CA about the methylphenidate concentrations after multiple doses were the important bases for the '129 patent—not the way of achieving the drug delivery by a modification to the OROS® device. FAC ¶ 33.

As of April 12, 2011, Dr. Swanson had a substantial controversy with ALZA, having adverse legal interests since ALZA was continuously engaged in litigations on patents, where Dr. Swanson's inventorship was at issue, and had pending litigation in Delaware on the '129 where Dr. Swanson's inventorship was already at issue. Dr. Swanson subsequently retained the undersigned counsel and counsel wrote a demand letter to Johnson & Johnson, ALZA's parent

Case4:12-cv-04579-PJH Document49 Filed12/28/12 Page17 of 27

corporation, on Dr. Swanson's behalf on August 29, 2012 demanding that ALZA correct the inventorship on the '129 patent and on related patents to include Dr. Swanson as one of the named inventors immediately. *See* Bathurst Decl. ¶ 4 Ex 3. ALZA did not respond to Dr. Swanson's letter demanding a correction in inventorship.

ALZA cites *MedImmune, Inc. v. Genentech, Inc.*, 549 U.S. 118, 127 (U.S. 2007) for authority that there is no declaratory judgment jurisdiction to invalidate the patents or hold that they are unenforceable in the context of an action under § 256 to correct inventorship. Mot. at 8. In *MedImmune*, the Supreme Court said,

Our decisions have required that the dispute be "definite and concrete, touching the legal relations of parties having adverse legal interests"; and that it be "real and substantial" and "admi[t] of specific relief through a decree of a conclusive character, as distinguished from an opinion advising what the law would be upon a hypothetical state of facts." *Id.*, at 240-241, 57 S. Ct. 461, 81 L. Ed. 617. In *Maryland Casualty Co. v. Pacific Coal & Oil Co.*, 312 U.S. 270, 273, 61 S. Ct. 510, 85 L. Ed. 826 (1941), we summarized as follows: "Basically, the question in each case is whether the facts alleged, under all the circumstances, show that there is a substantial controversy, between parties having adverse legal interests, of sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant the issuance of a declaratory judgment." *Id.*

The Federal Circuit has characterized the Supreme Court's rejection of the Federal Circuit's prior "reasonable apprehension" test as actually broadening the scope of injuries-in-fact which meet the "actual case and controversy" requirements of Article III and therefore the Declaratory Judgment Act. *See Teva Pharm. USA Inc. v. Novartis Pharm. Corp.*, 482 F.3d 1330, 1339 (Fed. Cir. 2007) (stating that under the old standard, the district court held that plaintiff "had failed to establish the type of injury-in-fact" that the Federal Circuit had previously required, *i.e.*, a reasonable apprehension of imminent suit). As of April 12, 2011, Dr. Swanson was already involved in the litigation between ALZA and Kremers as a third party putative inventor and exposed to injury in fact if the court determined that he was not an inventor. There was in fact a pending substantial controversy between the parties having adverse legal interests of sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant the issuance of a declaratory judgment meeting the jurisdictional requirements of *MedImmune*. Dr. Swanson should not have to be required to stand on the sidelines while ALZA and Kremers and later other party litigants determine his inventorship rights and the

validity and enforceability of the ALZA patents where he can prove he is the inventor by clear and convincing evidence.

The cases cited by ALZA are all distinguishable from Dr. Swanson's controversy with ALZA. In *Sensitron, Inc. v. Wallace*, 504 F. Supp. 2d 1180 (D. Utah 2007), the strongest case supporting ALZA's position, there was no ongoing suit between parties where inventorship of the plaintiff and putative inventor was at issue, as is the case here. In addition, the court in *Sensitron* pointed out that there was no identifiable actual or imminent injury caused by the defendant that could be redressed by judicial relief. Here Dr. Swanson's inventorship rights were being adjudicated in the context of the Kremers Litigation when Dr. Swanson filed his suit against ALZA.

Second, in *FMC Corp. v. Guthery*, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 32950, 20-21 (D.N.J. Apr. 17, 2009), the underlying § 256 action was dismissed because of the laches defense and an inventorship dispute involving the putative inventor was not ongoing as was the case here when Dr. Swanson filed his first complaint.

Third, in *Maxwell v. Stanley Works*, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 98913, 9-10 (M.D. Tenn. July 11, 2006), again the plaintiff putative inventor was not involved as a third party in an ongoing patent infringement suit where his inventorship rights were being adjudicated. In addition, this case predates the Supreme Court's decision in *MedImmune* where the Court rejected the "reasonable apprehension" test and broadened the scope of injuries-in-fact which meet the "actual controversy" requirements of Article III.

Although the Federal Circuit has not directly ruled on the question presented here, Dr. Swanson contends that the discussion in *Stark v. Advanced Magnetics*, 119 F.3d 1551, 1555-1556 (Fed. Cir. 1997) is most instructive for the Court to date. In *Stark*, the Court noted that its reading of the statute is not likely to allow an avowedly deceptive inventive entity to correct a misjoinder without any penalty for its deception. The Court said that this hypothetical situation would call on a court to determine whether the listed inventive entity committed inequitable conduct in filing a false oath. *See* 35 U.S.C. § 115 (requiring that an applicant for a patent "shall make oath that he believes himself to be the original and first inventor"); *Burroughs Wellcome Co. v. Barr Lab., Inc.*, 40 F.3d 1223, 1227 (Fed. Cir. 1994) (patent may be unenforceable for

4 5

1

6 7

8

9 10

11 12

13 14

15 16

17

18 19

20 21

23

22

24 25

26

27 28 inequitable conduct when any co-inventors are omitted with deceptive intent). MedImmune is not contrary in broadening the scope of injuries-in-fact that are actionable. MedImmune, 549 U.S. at 127. ("Basically, the question in each case is whether the facts alleged, under all of the circumstances, show that there is a substantial controversy, between parties having adverse legal interests, of sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant the issuance of a declaratory judgment.").

At a minimum, a jurisdictional determination should await a factual determination of inventorship on the merits since the fact finder may ultimately decide that Dr. Swanson is: (a) the sole inventor on ALZA's patents, (b) a co-inventor on ALZA's patents, or (c) not an inventor on ALZA's patents but the patents are invalid and unenforceable because of Dr. Swanson's prior work and ALZA's concealment of that work from the Patent Office. 4

ALZA Does Not Challenge Dr. Swanson's Fraud Claim (Count 2). C.

ALZA has not moved to dismiss Count 2 under Rule 12(b)(6), therefore the court "must presume all factual allegations of [Count 2 of] the complaint to be true and draw all reasonable inferences in favor of the nonmoving party." Usher 828 F.2d at 561.

Legal Precedent Supports Dr. Swanson's Breach of Fiduciary Duty Claim D. Against ALZA (Count 3).

Dr. Swanson agrees that to state a claim for breach of fiduciary duty, the FAC must allege sufficient facts that, if true, show: the existence of a fiduciary relationship, its breach, and damage proximately caused by that breach. Roberts v. Lomanto, 112 Cal. App. 4th 1553, 1562 (2003).

Dr. Swanson properly alleges all three of the required elements for breach of fiduciary duty. First, Dr. Swanson pleads that ALZA, through its counsel, owed him a fiduciary duty. See, e.g., FAC ¶ 160, ALZA and counsel represented Dr. Swanson in Kremers Litigation, FAC ¶ 161, ALZA and counsel filed objections on Dr. Swanson's behalf, FAC ¶ 162, ALZA and counsel had

A plaintiff is generally entitled to plead alternative or multiple theories of recovery on the basis of the same conduct on the part of the defendant. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(d)(2) ("A party may set out [two] or more statements of a claim or defense alternatively or hypothetically, either in a single count or defense or in separate ones."). MB Fin. Group, Inc. v. United States Postal Serv., 545 F.3d 814, 819 (9th Cir. Cal. 2008).

Case4:12-cv-04579-PJH Document49 Filed12/28/12 Page20 of 27

| 1 | knowledge of Dr. Swanson's putative inventorship status and had a duty to investigate, FAC ¶ 163, |
|----|---|
| 2 | ALZA and counsel had a duty to advise Dr. Swanson about ownership rights, advise him about |
| 3 | potential conflict with ALZA, and to seek separate counsel, FAC ¶ 164, ALZA and counsel owed |
| 4 | Dr. Swanson duties of loyalty, candor, due care and duty to act in Dr. Swanson's best interests. |
| 5 | Second, Dr. Swanson properly pleads that ALZA, through its counsel, breached their duties. See, |
| 6 | e.g., FAC ¶ 165, ALZA and counsel breached duties owed Dr. Swanson. Third, Dr. Swanson also |
| 7 | properly pleads that ALZA, through its counsel, proximately caused Dr. Swanson damages through |
| 8 | their breach. See, e.g., FAC ¶¶ 166-167, Dr. Swanson's damages of being denied benefits of his |
| 9 | invention. |
| 10 | Numerous legal authorities support the existence of a fiduciary duty between ALZA and |
| 11 | Dr. Swanson, because as a matter of law, ALZA is responsible for the actions and/or inactions of its |
| 12 | attorneys. See, e.g., O2 Micro Int'l Ltd. v. Beyond Innovation Tech. Co., 449 Fed. Appx. 923, 930 |
| 13 | (Fed. Cir. 2011) citing Link v. Wabash R.R., 370 U.S. 626, 633-34, 82 S. Ct. 1386, 8 L. Ed. 2d 734 |
| 14 | (1962) "the finding that BiTEK was acting through its counsel comports with the well-settled |
| 15 | principle that a client is responsible for its attorney's conduct in the courtroom;" Pomeroy v. United |
| 16 | States, 39 Fed. Cl. 205, 209-210 (Fed. Cir. 1997), citing Pioneer Inv. Services Co. v. Brunswick |
| 17 | Assoc. Ltd. Partnership, 507 U.S. 380, 396, 123 L. Ed. 2d 74, 113 S. Ct. 1489 (1993), "It also is |
| 18 | well settled that a person is bound by the consequences of the conduct of his or her counsel, |
| 19 | including both the acts and omissions of counsel;" United States v. 8136 S. Dobson St., 125 F.3d |
| 20 | 1076, 1084 (7th Cir. Ill. 1997) citing Tolliver v. Northrop Corp., 786 F.2d 316, 319 (7th Cir. 1986), |
| 21 | "Holding the client responsible for the lawyer's deeds ensures that both clients and lawyers take |
| 22 | care to comply;" Brown v. Federation of State Med. Bds. of the United States, 1986 U.S. Dist. |
| 23 | LEXIS 26154 (N.D. Ill. Apr. 29, 1986), "Not only is a client responsible for filings he has |
| 24 | personally signed, but as we stated in our Opinion of May 31, 1985, at 20, a client is also |
| 25 | responsible for his attorney's filings;" and <i>Neal v. Xerox Corp.</i> , 991 F. Supp. 494, 500 (E.D. Va. |
| 26 | 1998), "In our system of justice, clients are bound by their counsel's knowledge and actions. Our |
| 27 | courts could not process cases otherwise." |

Importantly, ALZA's Motion to Dismiss misleadingly characterizes that "...ALZA offered to provide representation for Swanson in responding to discovery in a case relating to ALZA's Concerta® product," and Dr. Swanson "...does not allege that he placed any special confidence in ALZA (or, for that matter, ALZA's counsel) to give him legal advice concerning his alleged inventions..." Mot. at 12 (emphasis added). In fact, ALZA and ALZA's counsel represented Dr. Swanson, Dr. Swanson placed his confidence in ALZA and ALZA's counsel, and Dr. Swanson's FAC pleads as much. See, e.g., FAC ¶ 161, "ALZA, Sidley and Ashby asserted that they represented Dr. Swanson," and "...filed objections on his behalf and delayed Dr. Swanson's deposition for as long as possible" and "[a]t this time, Dr. Swanson agreed to their representation and placed his trust and confidence in their representation."

E. Dr. Swanson's FAC Properly Pleads His Fraudulent Concealment Claim Against ALZA (Count 4).

ALZA challenges Dr. Swanson's fraudulent concealment claim for failing to allege that ALZA had a duty to disclose information about prosecution of the patents-in-suit to Dr. Swanson.

Mot. at 14. In fact, Dr. Swanson's FAC properly pleads ALZA's duty to disclose information about prosecution of the patents-in-suit to Dr. Swanson.

Dr. Swanson agrees with ALZA that the duty to disclose can arise in four different ways: (1) through a fiduciary relationship between the parties; (2) if the defendant has exclusive knowledge of material facts unknown to the plaintiff; (3) if the defendant actively conceals a material fact from the plaintiff; or (4) if the defendant makes a partial representation to the plaintiff while suppressing other material facts. *See LiMandri v. Judkins*, 52 Cal. App. 4th 326, 336 (1997). Dr. Swanson's FAC satisfies all four of the above-specified elements for pleading ALZA's duty to disclose information about prosecution of the patents-in-suit to Dr. Swanson.

First, Dr. Swanson pleads a fiduciary relationship between the parties. See FAC ¶¶ 205-208. Second, Dr. Swanson pleads ALZA's exclusive knowledge of material facts unknown to Dr. Swanson. See FAC ¶¶ 177-200. Third, Dr. Swanson pleads that ALZA actively concealed material facts from Dr. Swanson. See FAC ¶¶ 199-208. Fourth, Dr. Swanson also pleads that ALZA made a partial representation to Dr. Swanson while suppressing other material facts. See

FAC ¶ 64. Consequently, Dr. Swanson's fraudulent concealment claim sufficiently alleges that ALZA had a duty to disclose information about prosecution of the patents-in-suit to Dr. Swanson.

ALZA mistakenly asserts that a person cannot deceive another by withholding public information. ⁵ Contrary to ALZA's assertion, a person can deceive another by withholding public information. In *General Bedding Corp. v. Echevarria*, et al., 947 F.2d 1395 (1991), the Ninth Circuit acknowledged that "[i]ssuance of a patent and recordation in the Patent Office constitute notice to the world of its existence," but supported the appellant's argument that "knowledge of the patent does not constitute constructive notice of appellant's claims against the defendants." *Id.* at 1397-98. In deciding *General Bedding*, the Ninth Circuit stated, "[t]he plaintiff is deemed to have had constructive knowledge if it had enough information to warrant an investigation which, if reasonably diligent, would have led to discovery of the fraud." *Id.* at 1398. In deciding whether the plaintiff in that case had constructive knowledge under this standard, the Ninth Circuit held, "[b]ecause there are two reasonable inferences that can be made, there is a genuine issue of material fact regarding constructive notice. Therefore, summary judgment was inappropriate." *Id.* at 1399.

Because ALZA brings its Motion to Dismiss Dr. Swanson's fraudulent concealment claim under Rule 12(b)(6), the court "must presume all factual allegations of the complaint be true and draw all reasonable inferences in favor of the nonmoving party." *Usher*, 828 F.2d at 561. Accordingly, dismissal of Dr. Swanson's claim is also inappropriate, as Dr. Swanson pleads, for among other reasons, that "Dr. Swanson only became aware of the claims of the '129 patent at his April 12, 2011 deposition in the Kremers Litigation." *See* FAC ¶ 197.

General Bedding also supports the finding that Dr. Swanson's claims for ALZA's illegal actions prior to publication of the patents-in-suit are not barred by the statute of limitations. In General Bedding, the Ninth Circuit reversed the lower court's dismissal of a fraud claim due to the lapsing of the three-year statute of limitations, stating that, "[t]he rule is that the plaintiff must plead

Importantly, one of the authorities cited by ALZA states, "Given the incredible number of patents filed yearly, the Court will not charge Guthery with notice of his claim due to the mere issuance of the '676 Patent in 1997." *FMC Corp. v. Guthery*, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 32950 (D.N.J. Apr. 17, 2009).

1

and prove the facts showing: (a) Lack of knowledge. (b) Lack of means of obtaining knowledge (in the exercise of reasonable diligence the facts could not have been discovered at an earlier date). (c) How and when he did actually discover the fraud or mistake." *General Bedding*, 947 F.2d at 1397. In the present case, Dr. Swanson FAC ¶ 197 satisfies the standards for (a) lack of knowledge; and (c) how and when he did actually discover the fraud or mistake. With respect to (b) lack of means of obtaining knowledge (in the exercise of reasonable diligence the facts could not have been discovered at an earlier date), Dr. Swanson's FAC ¶¶ 191-196 and ¶¶ 200-208 more than adequately satisfy this standard.

9 10

F. Dr. Swanson's Unfair Competition Claim is Supported by California Law (Count 5).

11 | 12 | (1 | 13 | de | 14 | In | 15 | pr | 16 | F. | 17 | to | 18 | Ru | 19 | §

20

21

22

23

24

26

27

The unfair competition law (UCL) creates a cause of action for business practices that are: (1) unlawful, (2) unfair, or (3) fraudulent. Cal. Bus. & Profs. Code § 17200. Its coverage has been described as "sweeping," and its standard for wrongful business conduct is "intentionally broad." In re First Alliance Mortg. Co., 471 F.3d 977, 995 (9th Cir. 2006). Each "prong" of the UCL provides a separate and distinct theory of liability. Lozano v. AT & T Wireless Servs., Inc., 504 F.3d 718, 731 (9th Cir. 2007). ALZA is correct that to assert a UCL claim, a private plaintiff needs to have "suffered injury in fact and . . . lost money or property as a result of the unfair competition." Rubio v. Capital One Bank, 613 F.3d 1195, 1203 (9th Cir. 2010) (quoting Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17204). See In re iPhone Application Litig., 844 F. Supp. 2d 1040 (N.D. Cal. 2012).

ALZA argues incorrectly that Dr. Swanson has made no allegation in his unfair competition claim that he lost any money or property as a result of the complained-of activity. ALZA points the Court to the FAC ¶¶ 210-214 for the contention that Dr. Swanson has not lost money as a result of ALZA's conduct in not naming Dr. Swanson as an inventor. First, paragraph 210 incorporates by reference and realleges all other allegations of the FAC as though set forth in their entirety. FAC ¶ 210. Paragraph 8 of the FAC states that "Dr. Swanson was entitled to receive a royalty for his inventions." FAC ¶ 8. Paragraphs 212-213 of the FAC allege that ALZA has harmed consumers, the people of the State of California and The Regents of the University of California by "denying

The Regents the benefit of receiving compensation from ALZA in return for the exclusive rights to

27

28

Dr. Swanson's inventions for which The Regents were the proper assignee." FAC ¶¶ 212-213. As discussed above in the context of Dr. Swanson's standing to sue for correction of inventorship, Dr. Swanson was entitled to a royalty for that assignment of inventorship rights under the university's patent policy. See Bathurst Decl. ¶ 2 Ex 1. Consequently, Dr. Swanson has lost money and suffered "injury in fact" as a result of ALZA's unfair competition thereby establishing his standing under Article III of the Constitution. See Rubio 613 F.3d at 1203-4.

G. ALZA Concedes that California Case Law Supports Dr. Swanson's Unjust Enrichment Claim (Count 6).

First, ALZA argues that Dr. Swanson's unjust enrichment claim was dismissed with prejudice when the Court previously entered an order dismissing Dr. Swanson's first complaint after Dr. Swanson filed a notice of non-opposition and consequently res judicata bars reassertion of this claim. (Mot. at 17, fn 4). (Dkt. Nos. 29 notice of non-opposition and 30 order dismissing First Compl.). The Court's dismissal after a notice of non-opposition was on its face without prejudice and Dr. Swanson's unfettered right to file a FAC thereafter is well recognized to be within the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Within the statutory time frame, a party may amend its pleading once "as a matter of course." FRCP 15(a)(1). Rule 15(a)(1) provides that: A party may amend its pleading once as a matter of course within: (A) 21 days after serving it, or (B) if the pleading is one to which a responsive pleading is required, 21 days after service of a responsive pleading or 21 days after service of a motion under Rule 12(b), (e), or (f), whichever is earlier. See Lobato v. Bank of Am., 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 42950, 2-3 (N.D. Cal. May 3, 2010. Defendants filed their motion to dismiss plaintiff's complaint under Rule 12(b)(6) on October 24, 2012 (Dkt. No. 8). Plaintiff filed his statement of non-opposition and first amended complaint within the time required by the rule, on November 2, 2012, and November 14, 2012, respectively (Dkt. Nos. 29, 31). Plaintiff therefore may amend his complaint as a matter of course. Id. Next, ALZA argues that the claim should be dismissed because the growing weight of authority holds that unjust enrichment is not a cause of action in California, although ALZA concedes that other California courts have found a cause of action for unjust enrichment. Mot. at 17-18. ALZA cites counter authority supporting a cause of action for unjust enrichment including Hirsch v. Bank of America, 107 Cal. App. 4th 708, 722 (Cal.

App. 1st Dist. 2003). In Hirsch, the court in recognizing such a cause of action, said: "a person is enriched if he or she receives a benefit at another's expense." Id. See also, Shum v. Intel Corp., 630 F. Supp. 2d 1063, 1079 (unjust enrichment claim not preempted where theory of recovery was based on a discrete transaction allegedly tainted by misrepresentation of sole inventorship of patent). In another California case recognizing such an unjust enrichment cause of action, County of San Bernardino v. Walsh, 158 Cal. App. 4th 533, 542-543 (Cal. App. 2d Dist. 2007), the court said that disgorgement of profits was particularly applicable in cases dealing with breach of a fiduciary duty, and is a logical extension of the principle that fiduciaries cannot profit by a breach of their duty. That is exactly the case presented here. ALZA through its attorneys breached its fiduciary duty owed to Dr. Swanson by failing to advise Dr. Swanson of his inventorship rights and

H. Dr. Swanson is Legally Entitled to a Declaration of Ownership (Count 9).

ALZA should not be able to be unjustly enriched and profit by such conduct.

ALZA argues that Dr. Swanson's ownership claim is preempted by federal law based on University of Colo. Found., Inc. v. American Cyanamid Co., 196 F.3d 1366, 1372 (Fed. Cir. 1999). Dr. Swanson agrees that "the federal Patent Act leaves no room for states to supplement the national standard for inventorship." Id. But, that is not what this case or Count 9 is solely directed to. Paragraph 268 of the FAC alleges that Dr. Swanson is entitled to a declaration that as between Dr. Swanson and ALZA, Dr. Swanson is at least a legal and equitable co-owner of the '129 patent, the '798 patent, and the '373 patent and to an order that ALZA must execute any necessary documents to confirm formally Dr. Swanson's ownership of the '129 patent, the '798 patent, and the '373 patent. There is a genuine dispute between the parties over ownership of these patents as a result of the terms of the consulting agreement between Dr. Swanson and ALZA executed on December 1, 1993 and the Patent Agreement Dr. Swanson executed with The Regents on June 1, 1980, which raises state law statutory and contract questions. FAC ¶ 8, 107-111. See Kucharczyk, 946 F.Supp. at 1426-1427 (the Patent Policy is an official policy of the University, with the full force and effect of statute). ALZA admits as much in referencing the dispute over the agreements in its introduction to its motion to dismiss. Mot. at 1.

In *Bd. of Trs. of the Leland Stanford Junior Univ. v. Roche Molecular Sys.*, 583 F.3d 832, 841 (Fed. Cir. 2009) the Federal Circuit said: "[T]he question of who owns the patent rights and on what terms typically is a question exclusively for state courts." *Jim Arnold Corp. v. Hydrotech Sys.*, 109 F.3d 1567, 1572 (Fed. Cir. 1997); *see also MyMail, Ltd. v. Am. Online, Inc.*, 476 F.3d 1372, 1376 (Fed. Cir. 2007). However, the Federal Circuit went on to point out that this rule has exceptions: the question of whether contractual language effects a present assignment of patent rights, or an agreement to assign rights in the future, is resolved by Federal Circuit law. "Although state law governs the interpretation of contracts generally, the question of whether a patent assignment clause creates an automatic assignment or merely an obligation to assign is intimately bound up with the question of standing in patent cases. We have accordingly treated it as a matter of federal law." *DDB Techs., L.L.C. v. MLB Advanced Media, L.P.*, 517 F.3d 1284, 1290 (Fed. Cir. 2008) (citations omitted). Here, the interplay between the 1993 consulting agreement and the University's patent policy involves more than simply whether there was an assignment and will ultimately require the Court and the fact finder to resolve issues of inventorship under federal patent law as well as issues involving state statutory and contract law.

I. Dr. Swanson's Constructive Trust Claim is a Proper Remedy for the Wrongfully Held Patents (Count 10).

ALZA argues that Dr. Swanson's constructive trust claim must be dismissed if this Court dismisses the underlying fraud and fraudulent concealment claims. First, ALZA has not even moved to dismiss Count 2 (Fraud) under Rule 12(b)(6) and Dr. Swanson has alleged Count 2 with sufficient particularity to overcome any deficiencies in pleading on its face. FAC ¶¶ 107-158. To satisfy Rule 9(b), a pleading alleging fraud must identify "the who, what, when, where, and how of the misconduct charged" as well as "what is false and misleading about [the purported fraudulent] statement, and why it is false." *Ebeid ex rel. United States v. Lungwitz*, 616 F3d 993, 998 (9th Cir.

Bd. of Trs. v. Roche Molecular Sys., 131 S. Ct. 2188, 2194 (U.S. 2011) is not contrary. "Because the Federal Circuit's interpretation of the relevant assignment agreements is not an issue on which we granted certiorari, we have no occasion to pass on the validity of the lower court's construction of those agreements." Id. at 2194, n2.

Case4:12-cv-04579-PJH Document49 Filed12/28/12 Page27 of 27

| 1 | 2010). Dr. Swanson has pled with the necessary particularity his fraud claim. FAC ¶¶ 107-158. |
|----|--|
| 2 | Dr. Swanson has similarly pled with particularity his fraudulent concealment claims to survive |
| 3 | ALZA's motion to dismiss. FAC ¶¶ 168-209. |
| 4 | In addition, as pointed out above in opposition to ALZA's motion to dismiss Count 9 related |
| 5 | to a declaration of ownership, this case is not solely about Dr. Swanson's inventorship rights and |
| 6 | there is no preemption of all applicable state statutory law and state contract law. |
| 7 | A constructive trust is an equitable remedy that compels the transfer of wrongfully held |
| 8 | property to its rightful owner. Mattel, Inc. v. MGA Entm't, Inc., 616 F.3d 904, 908-909 (9th Cir. |
| 9 | Cal. 2010); Communist Party of U.S. v. 522 Valencia, Inc., 35 Cal. App. 4th 980, 41 Cal. Rptr. 2d |
| 10 | 618, 623 (Cal. Ct. App. 1995); see also Cal. Civ. Code § 2223 ("One who wrongfully detains a |
| 11 | thing is an involuntary trustee thereof, for the benefit of the owner.") Dr. Swanson has alleged |
| 12 | sufficient facts to show: (1) the existence of a res (the ALZA patents); (2) the right to that res |
| 13 | (Dr. Swanson can prove he is the rightful inventor and owner); and (3) the wrongful acquisition or |
| 14 | detention of the res by ALZA. See Communist Party, 41 Cal. Rptr. 2d at 623-24. As stated |
| 15 | previously, for purposes of evaluating a motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(6), the court "must |
| 16 | presume all factual allegations of the complaint to be true and draw all reasonable inferences in |
| 17 | favor of the nonmoving party." Usher, 828 F.2d at 561. Any existing ambiguities must be resolved |
| 18 | in favor of the pleading. Walling, 476 F.2d at 396. ALZA is not entitled to dismissal of Count 10 |
| 19 | for failure to state a claim. |
| 20 | IV. CONCLUSION |
| 21 | Based on the foregoing analysis, ALZA's motion to dismiss should be denied. |
| 22 | |
| 23 | Dated: December 28, 2012 CARR & FERRELL LLP |
| 24 | |
| 25 | By: /s/ Gerald P. Dodson GERALD P. DODSON |
| 26 | K. BRIAN BATHURST |
| 27 | Attorneys for Plaintiff |
| 28 | DR. JAMES M. SWANSON |

Christine Blaufus

From:

ECF-CAND@cand.uscourts.gov

Sent:

Friday, December 28, 2012 2:52 PM

To:

efiling@cand.uscourts.gov

Subject:

Activity in Case 4:12-cv-04579-PJH Swanson v. Alza Corporation Opposition/Response

to Motion

This is an automatic e-mail message generated by the CM/ECF system. Please DO NOT RESPOND to this e-mail because the mail box is unattended.

NOTE TO PUBLIC ACCESS USERS Judicial Conference of the United States policy permits attorneys of record and parties in a case (including pro se litigants) to receive one free electronic copy of all documents filed electronically, if receipt is required by law or directed by the filer. PACER access fees apply to all other users. To avoid later charges, download a copy of each document during this first viewing. However, if the referenced document is a transcript, the free copy and 30 page limit do not apply.

U.S. District Court

California Northern District

Notice of Electronic Filing

The following transaction was entered by Dodson, Gerald on 12/28/2012 at 2:51 PM PST and filed on 12/28/2012

Case Name:

Swanson v. Alza Corporation

Case Number:

4:12-cv-04579-PJH

Filer:

James M. Swanson

Document Number: 49

Docket Text:

RESPONSE (re [45] Corrected MOTION to Dismiss The Amended Complaint) filed by James M. Swanson. (Dodson, Gerald) (Filed on 12/28/2012)

4:12-cv-04579-PJH Notice has been electronically mailed to:

Allison Elizabeth Kerndt akern

akerndt@cov.com

Elena Maria DiMuzio

edimuzio@cov.com

George Frank Pappas

gpappas@cov.com

Gerald P. Dodson <u>jdodson@carrferrell.com</u>, <u>bbathurst@carrferrell.com</u>, <u>bboyle@carrferrell.com</u>, <u>cblaufus@carrferrell.com</u>, <u>lgomes@carrferrell.com</u>, <u>vleghorn@carrferrell.com</u>

Jessica Parezo jparezo@cov.com

Kent Brian Bathurst

kbathurst@carferrell.com

Kurt G. Calia kcalia@cov.com, jlieu@cov.com, mcanalita@cov.com

4:12-cv-04579-PJH Please see Local Rule 5-5; Notice has NOT been electronically mailed to:

The following document(s) are associated with this transaction:

Document description: Main Document

Original filename: Swanson's Opp to Alza's Motion to Dismiss First Amended Complaint (00666635). PDF

Electronic document Stamp:

[STAMP CANDStamp_ID=977336130 [Date=12/28/2012] [FileNumber=9230288-0] [5e51fba95c03156e13e82c04d9b10b687f2be58d5c29a2ab5b64954e202e2ff6de4e e6419b005c2814424d55383380c73ee1f39d1bbcfb462a2dbac0d53341f3]]