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EXAMSOFT WORLDWIDE, INC.,

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs Brittney Fredcrick, Alexander Pruefer, and Jinger Sanders ("Plaintiffs") individually and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated, by their undersigned attorneys, as and for their Class Action Complaint for violations of the Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act ("BIPA"), 740 ILCS 14/1 *et seq.*, against Defendant ExamSoft Worldwide, Inc., ("Defendant"), allege on personal knowledge, due investigation of their counsel, and, where indicated, on information and belief as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is a class action suit brought against Defendant ExamSoft. ("ExamSoft" or "Defendant") for violations of the Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act ("BIPA"), 740 ILCS 14/1 *et seq.* Defendant develops, owns, and operates an eponymous online proctoring software that collects biometric information.

2. Plaintiffs bring this action for damages and other legal and equitable remedies resulting from the illegal actions of Defendant in collecting, storing and using their and other

3. The Illinois Legislature has found that “[b]iometrics are unlike other unique identifiers that are used to access finances or other sensitive information.” 740 ILCS 14/5(c). “For example, social security numbers, when compromised, can be changed. Biometrics, however, are biologically unique to the individual; therefore, once compromised, the individual has no recourse, is at heightened risk for identity theft, and is likely to withdraw from biometric-facilitated transactions.” *Id.*

4. In recognition of these concerns over the security of individuals’ biometrics the Illinois Legislature enacted BIPA, which provides, *inter alia*, that a private entity like Defendant that possesses biometrics must inform individuals in writing of the specific purpose and length of term for which such biometric identifiers or biometric information are being collected, stored and used. 740 ILCS 14/15(b).

5. Moreover, entities collecting biometrics must publish publicly available written retention schedules and guidelines for permanently destroying biometrics collected. *See* 740 ILCS 14/15(a).

¹ A “biometric identifier” is any personal feature that is unique to an individual, including fingerprints, iris scans, DNA and “face geometry”, among others.

² “Biometric information” is any information captured, converted, stored or shared based on a person’s biometric identifier used to identify an individual.

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8. Defendant does not sufficiently specify how long it will retain biometric information, or when it will delete such information.

9. BIPA confers on Plaintiffs and all other similarly situated Illinois residents a right to know of the risks that are inherently presented by the collection and storage of biometrics, and a right to know how long such risks will persist after ceasing using Defendant's software.

10. Yet, Defendant failed to provide sufficient data retention or destruction policies to Plaintiffs or the Class.

11. Plaintiffs bring this action to prevent Defendant from further violating the privacy rights of Illinois residents and to recover statutory damages for Defendant's improper and lackluster collection, storage, and protection of these individuals' biometrics in violation of BIPA.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

12. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because the biometrics that give rise to this lawsuit (1) belonged to Illinois residents, and (2) were collected by Defendant at Illinois schools or from students taking exams in Illinois

13. Venue is proper in this County pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-102(a) because Defendant does substantial business in this County and a substantial part of the events giving rise to Plaintiffs'

15. Plaintiff Brittney Frederick is, and has been at all relevant times, a resident of Chicago, Illinois and has an intent to remain there, and is therefore a domiciliary of Illinois.

16. Plaintiff Jinger Sanders is, and has been at all relevant times, a resident of Dolton, Illinois and has an intent to remain there, and is therefore a domiciliary of Illinois.

17. Defendant ExamSoft Worldwide Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 5001 LBJ Freeway, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas, 75244. Defendant develops, owns, and operates an online proctoring software of the same name that is used throughout Illinois.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

I. Illinois' Biometric Information Privacy Act

18. The use of a biometric scanning system entails serious risks. Unlike other methods of identification, facial geometry is a permanent, unique biometric identifier associated with an individual. This exposes individuals to serious and irreversible privacy risks. For example, if a device or database containing individuals' facial geometry data is hacked, breached, or otherwise exposed, individuals have no means by which to prevent identity theft and unauthorized tracking.

19. Recognizing the need to protect citizens from these risks, Illinois enacted the Biometric Information Privacy Act, 740 ILCS 14/1, *et seq* ("BIPA") in 2008, to regulate companies that collect and store biometric information, such as facial geometry. *See* Illinois House Transcript, 2008 Reg. Sess. No. 276.

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