## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MICHELI & SHEL, LLC, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

GRUBHUB INC., GRUBHUB INC. d/b/a SEAMLESS, SEAMLESS NORTH AMERICA, LLC, UBER TECHNOLOGIES INC., UBER EATS, POSTMATES LLC, and DOORDASH INC.,

Defendants.

Case No.: 21-cv-04995 (JMF)

## MICHELI & SHEL, LLC's OMNIBUS MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO COMPEL ARBITRATION AND STAY THIS ACTION

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### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

TABLE OF CONTENTS	I
TABLE OF AUTHORITIES	II
INTRODUCTION	1
BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT FACTS	2
ARGUMENT	4
I. The FAA Does Not Appy to this Dispute and Plaintiff Should Not be Compelled to Arbitrate Its Claims.	4
A. The Arbitration Agreements are Unenforceable.	5
<ol> <li>The Enforcement of the Arbitration Agreements Would be Unconscionable Becau Plaintiff Did Not Agree to Arbitrate Illegal Conduct When It Assented to Defenda Service Agreements.</li> </ol>	
ii. The FAA's Mandate has Been Overridden by Contrary Legislative Command	7
B. The Arbitration Agreement Does Not Cover the Dispute.	
i. The Claims are Unrelated to the Contract Between the Parties.	9
ii. The Plaintiff Could Not Have Agreed to Arbitrate Claims Based On a Law That I Not Exist at the Time of Alleged Assent to the Service Agreements.	Did
iii. Updated Service Agreements Cannot be Used to Compel Arbitration Because the Plaintiff Never Assented to Them.	13
C. Since the Dispute Falls Outside the Scope of the Arbitration Agreement the Issue of Arbitrability Should be Decided by the Court.	
II. The Class Action Waivers Do Not Apply to Plaintiff's Dispute and in Any Event, the Enforceability of the Class Action Waivers Must be Resolved by the Court.	15
III. Public Policy Requires That the Parties Litigate This Dispute in Open Court.	17
IV. This Action Should Not be Stayed.	19
CONCLUSION	20



## **TABLE OF AUTHORITIES**

Cases	Page(s)
BCB Holdings Ltd. v. Gov't of Belize, 110 F. Supp. 3d 233 (D.D.C. 2015)	18
Benicorp Ins. Co. v. Nat'l Med. Health Card Sys., Inc., 447 F. Supp. 2d 329 (S.D.N.Y. 2006)	13
Berkson v. Gogo LLC, 97 F. Supp. 3d 359 (E.D.N.Y. 2015)	14
Cap Gemini Ernst & Young, U.S., L.L.C. v. Nackel, 346 F.3d 360 (2d Cir. 2003)	12
Express Indus. & Terminal Corp. v. New York State Dep't of Transp., 93 N.Y.2d 584, 715 N.E.2d 1050 (1999)	13
Gillman v. Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., 73 N.Y.2d 1, 534 N.E.2d 824 (1988)	5, 6
Hall St. Assocs., L.L.C. v. Mattel, Inc., 552 U.S. 576, 128 S. Ct. 1396, 170 L. Ed. 2d 254 (2008)	17
Howsam v. Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc., 537 U.S. 79, 123 S. Ct. 588, 154 L. Ed. 2d 491 (2002)	5
In re Am. Exp. Fin. Advisors Sec. Litig., 672 F.3d 113 (2d Cir. 2011)	5
In re Winimo Realty Corp., 276 B.R. 334 (S.D.N.Y. 2001)	9
JLM Indus., Inc. v. Stolt-Nielsen SA, 387 F.3d 163 (2d Cir. 2004)	8
McFarlane v. Altice USA, Inc., 2021 WL 860584 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 8, 2021)	Passim
Meyer v. Uber Techs., Inc., 868 F.3d 66 (2d Cir. 2017)	13
Necchi S.p.A. v. Necchi Sewing Mach. Sales Corp., 348 F.2d 693 (2d Cir. 1965)	



Plazza v. Airbnb, Inc., 289 F. Supp. 3d 537 (S.D.N.Y. 2018)	5
Prima Paint Corp. v. Flood & Conklin Mfg. Co., 388 U.S. 395, 87 S. Ct. 1801, 18 L. Ed. 2d 1270 (1967)	12
Schnabel v. Trilegiant Corp., 697 F.3d 110 (2d Cir. 2012)	14
Shearson/Am. Exp., Inc. v. McMahon, 482 U.S. 220, 107 S. Ct. 2332, 96 L. Ed. 2d 185 (1987)	8
Sprinzen v. Nomberg, 46 N.Y.2d 623, 389 N.E.2d 456 (1979)	19
Titan Tire Corp. of Freeport v. United Steel, Paper & Forestry, Rubber, Mfg., Energy, Allied Indus. & Serv. Workers Int'l Union, 734 F.3d 708 (7th Cir. 2013)	19
Transit Mix Concrete Corp. v. Loc. Union No. 282, Int'l Bhd. of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen & Helpers of Am., 809 F.2d 963 (2d Cir. 1987)	12
United Bhd. of Carpenters & Joiners of Am., AFL-CIO v. Operative Plasterers' & Cement Masons' Int'l Ass'n of U.S. & Canada, AFL-CIO, 721 F.3d 678 (D.C. Cir. 2013)	18
Vera v. Saks & Co., 335 F.3d 109 (2d Cir. 2003)	12
Volt Info. Scis., Inc. v. Bd. of Trustees of Leland Stanford Junior Univ., 489 U.S. 468, 109 S. Ct. 1248, 103 L. Ed. 2d 488 (1989)	4
W.R. Grace & Co. v. Loc. Union 759, Int'l Union of United Rubber, Cork, Linoleum & Plastic Workers of Am.,	17
461 U.S. 757, 103 S. Ct. 2177, 76 L. Ed. 2d 298 (1983)	l <b>/</b>
9 U.S.C.A. § 2	6
Other Authorities	
New York City, N.Y., Code § 20-848	8



Plaintiff Micheli & Shel, LLC ("Plaintiff" or "Micheali's Bakery") respectfully submits this memorandum of law in opposition to Defendants Grubhub Inc., Grubhub Inc. d/b/a Seamless, Seamless North America, LLC (collectively with Grubhub Inc. and Grubhub Inc. d/b/a Seamless, "GrubHub")<sup>1</sup>, Uber Technologies, Inc., Uber Eats (collectively with Uber Technologies, Inc., "Uber"), Postmates, LLC ("Postmates")<sup>2</sup>, and DoorDash, Inc.'s ("DoorDash") motions seeking an Order (i) compelling arbitration of the claims asserted by Plaintiff; (ii) staying the action pending the outcome of any arbitration; and (iii) granting such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper (collectively, "the Motions").

#### **INTRODUCTION**

On June 7, 2021, Plaintiff Micheli & Shel, LLC ("Michaeli's Bakery"), an Israeli-style bakery located in Manhattan's Lower East Side neighborhood, filed suit on its behalf and on behalf of all others similarly situated, against Defendants, the major third-party food delivery platforms in New York City for their violations of New York City's legislation capping delivery fees during the COVID-19 pandemic. Defendants seek to compel Michaeli's Bakery to arbitrate its claims against them on an individual basis claiming that the Federal Arbitration Act ("FAA") applies to the dispute and that the Plaintiff agreed to arbitrate any and all disputes through private arbitration. However, as will be discussed, the FAA does not apply to this dispute and as such, Plaintiff should not be compelled to arbitrate its claims.

First, it would be unconscionable to enforce the arbitration agreements because, when Plaintiff contracted with Defendants for their delivery services, it certainly did not agree to arbitrate disputes stemming from Defendants' illegal conduct. Second, the FAA's mandate has

In or around July 2020, Defendant Uber Technologies, Inc. acquired Defendant Postmates, LLC.



Defendants Grubhub Inc., GrubHub d/b/a Seamless, and Seamless North America, LLC merged into one entity, Grubhub Inc. *See* Doc. No. 39.

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