45-025 Manitou Dr Indian Wells, Califo Phone: (760) 636-3 garrett@heckmanla Attorney for Plainti Kevin Grimes and Center Corp.	ornia 92210 508 wpc.com iffs K.N.G. Product	Γ OF CALIFORNIA FRIVERSIDE
KEVIN GRIMES		
	an individual; K.N.G. ER CORP., a California	Case No.: COMPLAINT FOR:
LP, a Delaware lim AIRPORT INC., a YKSP AIRPORT I type; 1955687 ALE corporation; FINAL Alberta corporation 100;	ividual; PSP AIRPORT ited partnership; YKPS Delaware corporation; NC., an unknown entity BERTA LTD., an Alberta NCE ALBERTA LTD., an a; and DOES 1 through indants.	 FRAUD; NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION; CONCEALMENT; VIOLATIONS OF CORP. CODE 25401; IMPOSITION OF EQUITABLE LIEN; BREACH OF PROMISSORY NOTE; BREACH OF COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING; COMMON COUNTS; and SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE. Unlimited Complaint

1. Plaintiff KEVIN GRIMES is, and at all times herein mentioned was, an individual residing in the City of Yorba Linda, County of Orange, State of California.

PARTIES

- 2. Plaintiff K.N.G. PRODUCT CENTER CORP. is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a California corporation with its principal place of business in the City of Yorba Linda, County of Orange, State of California.
- 3. Defendant YUIN KIM ("KIM") is, and at all times herein mentioned was, an individual doing business in the City of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, State of California.
- 4. Defendant PSP AIRPORT LP, is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a Delaware limited partnership doing business in the City of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, State of California.
- 5. Defendant YKPS AIRPORT INC., is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a Delaware corporation doing business in the City of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, State of California.
- 6. Defendant YKSP AIRPORT INC., is, and at all times herein mentioned was, an unknown entity type doing business in the City of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, State of California.
- 7. Defendant 1955687 ALBERTA LTD. ("195 LTD."), is, and at all times herein mentioned was, an Alberta corporation doing business in the City of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, State of California. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendant 195 LTD is also known as "1955687 AB, LTD."
- 8. Defendant FINANCE ALBERTA LTD., is, and at all times herein mentioned was, an Alberta corporation doing business in the City of Palm Springs, County of Riverside, State of California.
- 9. Defendants DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, are sued herein under such fictitious names. Their true names and capacities are unknown to Plaintiffs. When their true names and capacities are ascertained, Plaintiffs will amend this Complaint by

inserting their true names and capacities. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that each of the fictitiously named defendants are responsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged, and that Plaintiffs' damages as herein alleged were proximately caused by defendants' conduct.

- 10. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that at all times herein mentioned, each of the defendants herein, including DOES, were acting as the agents and employees of their co-defendants, and in doing the things hereinafter alleged were acting within the scope of their authority as such agents and employees, and with the permission and consent, either express or implied, of each of their co-cross-defendants.
- 11. In addition, Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendants are using the various entities herein (and others) in an elaborate shell game. That is, Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that the entity Defendants have such a unity of interest with Defendant KIM such as to be Defendant KIM's alter ego, in that Defendant KIM is their controlling shareholder, member, or partner, that the entity Defendants are shell companies without sufficient capital or assets, that their identity and existence are not maintained separate and distinct from Defendant KIM, and that the entity Defendants are mere conduits for Defendant KIM. Plaintiffs are further informed and believe and thereon allege that allowing Defendant KIM to hide behind the limited liability shields of the entity Defendants would result in injustice or fraud on the Plaintiffs.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 12. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that this Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to *Code of Civil Procedure* sections 88 and 410.10.
- 13. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that venue is proper in this Court pursuant to *Code of Civil Procedure* section 395.

INTRODUCTION

14. Defendant KIM solicited and induced Plaintiffs to invest in a real estate project involving parking and vehicle storage adjacent to the Palm Springs International

- 24. In or before July 2022, before Plaintiffs had reason to suspect Defendant KIM, Defendant KIM reached out to Plaintiff GRIMES to see if he had more money or knew of anyone looking to invest on another large project.
- 25. Defendant KIM pitched Plaintiff GRIMES hard on this investment, promising giant returns, and saying that Plaintiff GRIMES would miss out if he did not invest in the project.
- 26. This particular project involved purchasing approximately 10.5 acres of land ("Property", identified as assessor's parcel numbers 677-530-001 and 677-530-015).
- 27. The Property is adjacent to the Airport, and developing that land for parking and vehicle storage. The development included approximately 1,140 parking spaces (and, later, 2,200 parking spaces), mostly covered by 14-foot canopies. Those canopies would have solar panels supporting electrical vehicle charging, and potential for sale of surplus energy ("Project Cactus").
- 28. Defendant KIM represented to Plaintiffs that the solar panels would legitimize the classification of Project Cactus as a renewable energy source project, qualifying for commercial property assessed clean energy (C-PACE) funding (which would fund part of the completion value).
- 29. Based on Defendant KIM's representations, Plaintiffs decided to invest in Project Cactus. Defendant KIM asked for \$50,000.00 that Defendant KIM would convert into shares. Defendant KIM referred to Plaintiff GRIMES as a "partner," and represented that Plaintiff should expect three to four times his investment.
- 30. Defendant KIM began pressuring Plaintiff GRIMES to produce the funds. Plaintiff GRIMES was concerned that there was little time to complete due diligence, but was convinced by several reports, studies, and analyses ("Reports") showing feasibility and likely substantial returns.
- 31. The Reports were produced at the request of Defendant FINANCE ALBERTA LTD, an entity owned and controlled by Defendant KIM. And Defendant KIM, through Defendant FINANCE ALBERTA LTD, provided the information relied upon by those producing the Reports.

- 32. On that basis, on or about July 15, 2022, Plaintiff GRIMES, on behalf of Plaintiff KNG, wrote a \$50,000.00 check directly to Defendant KIM.
- 33. In exchange, Defendant KIM provided Plaintiffs with a convertible promissory note ("Promissory Note"). A true and correct copy of that Promissory Note is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A."
- 34. Defendant KIM made out the Promissory Note on behalf of a corporation owned by Defendant KIM: Defendant 195 LTD. The Promissory Note states "FOR VALUE RECEIVED," with a face value of \$50,000.00 and accruing interest at a rate of 6% per year beginning on August 31, 2022. The Promissory Note specifically references the Property by its APNs ("67-530-001" [sic] and "677-530-015").
- 35. The Promissory Note states that it is convertible into limited partnership interest in a new entity ("New Buyer Entity"). The Promissory Note states that, upon transfer of the Property to the New Buyer Entity, the Promissory Note "shall automatically convert into a fully paid .167% limited partnership interest in the New Buyer Entity," and that conversion is "automatic" "upon sale of units."
- 36. However, now Defendant KIM claims that Plaintiff is not invested in Project Cactus.
- 37. The current owner of the Property is Defendant PSP AIRPORT LP, a California limited partnership whose general partner is identified as Defendant YKSP AIRPORT INC. Plaintiff has been unable to find any such entity, and suspects that this is a typographical error that should be Defendant YKPS AIRPORT INC., a Delaware corporation.
- 38. According to Defendant PSP AIRPORT LP's Certificate of Limited Partnership, Defendant PSP AIRPORT LP was formed on or about October 18, 2022, three months after Defendants KIM and 195 LTD executed the Promissory Note. A true and correct copy of Defendant PSP AIRPORT LP's Certificate of Limited Partnership is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "B," and its Certificate of Registration in the state of California is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "C."
 - 39. On or about October 24, 2022, Defendant 195 LTD assigned its interest in

the Property to Defendant PSP AIRPORT LP. A true and correct copy of that assignment agreement is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "D."

- According to the official records of the Riverside County Recorder, on or about February 27, 2023, the Property was transferred to Defendant PSP AIRPORT LP. A true and correct copy of the deed evidencing that transfer is attached hereto and
- Per the terms of the Promissory Note, Plaintiffs are entitled to their 0.167% limited partnership interest. The Promissory Note further states that this may be redeemed at this time for \$75,000.00. As security for the New Buyer Entity's obligation to redeem Plaintiffs' interest, Plaintiffs are entitled to a further 0.33% limited partnership
- In short, Defendant KIM, through the entity Defendants, has perpetrated a fraud on Plaintiffs. Defendant KIM convinced Plaintiffs to transfer \$50,000.00 to Defendant 195 LTD in exchange for interest in Defendant PSP AIRPORT LP. Defendant KIM and Defendant 195 LTD never intended to transfer any interest to Plaintiffs. And since that time, Defendants have simply ignored the terms of the Promissory Note.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against KIM, 195 LTD, FINANCE ALBERTA LTD, and DOES 1 through 100)

- Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate paragraphs 1 through 42, inclusive, of
- Defendant KIM, and through Defendant KIM, Defendants 195 LTD and FINANCE ALBERTA LTD, made the following representations to Plaintiffs:
- That Plaintiffs would be entitled to an equity ownership interest in
- That Plaintiffs would obtain a return on investment exceeding three
- That Defendants would convert the Promissory Note into ownership interest in Defendants 195 LTD and PSP AIRPORT LP.

- 45. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendants' representations were false, and that Defendants knew that those representations were false at the time they were made. In the alternative, Defendants made the representations recklessly and without regard for their truth.
- 46. Defendants intended that Plaintiffs rely on the representations, on which Plaintiffs reasonably relied.
- 47. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' representations, Plaintiffs have been harmed in an amount to be determined at trial, but which is currently estimated to be \$57,906.85.
- 48. Defendants engaged in this behavior with a conscious disregard of the rights and monetary interests of Plaintiffs to such an extent that Defendants' behavior constitutes malice, oppression, or fraud. As such, an award of punitive damages is appropriate.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION CONCEALMENT

(Against KIM, 195 LTD, FINANCE ALBERTA LTD, and DOES 1 through 100)

- 49. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate paragraphs 1 through 42, inclusive, of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 50. Defendants KIM, 195 LTD, and FINANCE ALBERTA LTD concealed from Plaintiffs, or prevented Plaintiffs from discovering, the following facts:
- a. That Defendants did not intend to provide Plaintiffs with an equity ownership interest in Defendants 195 LTD and PSP AIRPORT LP;
- b. That Plaintiffs would not obtain a return on investment exceeding three times their investment; and
- c. That Defendants would not convert the Promissory Note into ownership interest in Defendants 195 LTD and PSP AIRPORT LP.
 - 51. Plaintiff did not know, and had no reason to know, the concealed facts.
 - 52. Defendants intended to deceive Plaintiffs by concealing those facts.
 - 53. Had the concealed facts been disclosed, Plaintiffs reasonably would have

behaved differently.

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FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATIONS OF CORP. CODE § 25401

(Against KIM, 195 LTD, PSP AIRPORT INC. and DOES 1 through 100)

- 61. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate paragraphs 1 through 42, inclusive, of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 62. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that the Promissory Note and the purported interest in Defendants 195 LTD and PSP AIRPORT LP are "securities" as defined by *Cal. Corp. Code* section 25019.
- 63. In or before July 2022, before Plaintiffs had reason to suspect Defendant KIM, Defendant KIM reached out to Plaintiff GRIMES to see if he had more money or knew of anyone looking to invest on another large project.
- 64. Defendant KIM pitched Plaintiff GRIMES hard on this investment, promising giant returns, and saying that Plaintiff GRIMES would miss out if he did not invest in the project.
- 65. On that basis, on or about July 15, 2022, Plaintiff GRIMES, on behalf of Plaintiff KNG, wrote a \$50,000.00 check directly to Defendant KIM.
- 66. In exchange, Defendant KIM provided Plaintiffs with a convertible promissory note ("Promissory Note").
- 67. However, the following representations made by Defendant KIM were untrue statements of material facts:
- a. That Plaintiffs would be entitled to an equity ownership interest in Defendants 195 LTD and PSP AIRPORT LP;
- b. That Plaintiffs would obtain a return on investment exceeding three times their investment; and
- c. That Defendants would convert the Promissory Note into ownership interest in Defendants 195 LTD and PSP AIRPORT LP.
- 68. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' representations, Plaintiffs have been harmed in an amount to be determined at trial, but which is currently estimated to be \$59,224.66 (the principal amount and 7% interest per year).

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FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

IMPOSITION AND FORECLOSURE OF EQUITABLE LIEN

(Against KIM, 195 LTD, PSP AIRPORT INC., and DOES 1 through 100)

- 69. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate paragraphs 1 through 42, inclusive, of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 70. Plaintiffs and Defendants KIM, 195 LTD, and PSP AIRPORT LP, as evidenced by the terms of the Promissory Note, agreed that Plaintiffs would provide \$50,000.00 which would specifically be used to for the purchase of the Property. (See Exh. A, p. 1).
- 71. In exchange, Plaintiffs are entitled to an interest in Defendants 195 LTD and PSP AIRPORT LP; however, Defendants have reneged on that promise without any justification.
- 72. Plaintiffs have acted in good faith at all times material herein. And Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendants, in reneging on the terms of the Promissory Note, have acted in bad faith.
- 73. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that an equitable lien is necessary to prevent unconscionable and inequitable assertion of rights resulting in unjust enrichment.
- 74. For those reasons, Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Plaintiffs are entitled to the imposition and foreclosure of an equitable lien against the Property in an amount to be determined at trial, but which is currently estimated to be to be \$57,906.85, as well as interest from the date of breach at the maximum legal rate.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

BREACH OF PROMISSORY NOTE

(Against KIM, 195 LTD, and DOES 1 through 100)

- 75. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate paragraphs 1 through 42, inclusive, of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 76. Plaintiffs and Defendants KIM and 195 LTD entered into the Promissory Note, whereby Plaintiffs provided \$50,000.00 in exchange for interest in the New Buyer

Entity.

(See Exh. E).

(See Exh. E).