

**BEFORE THE UNITED STATES JUDICIAL PANEL
ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION**

IN RE: NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC) MDL-_____
ASSOCIATION ATHLETIC GRANT-IN-AID)
ANTITRUST LITIGATION)
_____)

**BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION OF PLAINTIFF FOR TRANSFER OF ACTIONS TO
THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1407
FOR COORDINATED OR CONSOLIDATED PRETRIAL PROCEEDINGS**

I. INTRODUCTION

As of the date of this motion, two putative class action lawsuits have been filed by plaintiffs who are current or former college athletes at National Collegiate Athletic Association (“NCAA”) member universities, and whose scholarships and other forms of financial remuneration were limited by the athletic grant-in-aid cap imposed by Defendants NCAA, and its most powerful athletic conference members, Defendants The Pacific 12 Conference, The Big Ten Conference, Inc., The Big Twelve Conference, Inc., the Southeastern Conference, and the Atlantic Coast Conference. *See* Schedule of Actions, filed herewith. The first of those actions was filed in the Northern District of California, and another has been filed in the District of New Jersey. These lawsuits arise out of a common nucleus of operative facts and contain substantially similar factual allegations and legal claims. Plaintiff Shawne Alston believes that consolidation of these related actions in the Northern District of California is appropriate under 28 U.S.C. § 1407 because it will serve the convenience of the parties and witnesses, and promote the just, fair, and efficient conduct of this litigation.

Plaintiff Alston submits that the Northern District of California is the appropriate forum for coordination or consolidation of all the related actions in this matter, and that the related actions not pending in that district should be transferred there, for the following reasons:

- Chief Judge Claudia Wilken, the Judge assigned to the case in the Northern District of California, is particularly well suited to handle this case. Chief Judge Wilken currently has no other MDL pending before her. However, she does have consolidated and related NCAA class action cases pending before her, *Keller v. Electronic Arts Inc. Et al*, Case No. 09-01967 CW (N.D. Cal.) and *O'Bannon v. National Collegiate Athletic Ass'n*, Nos. C 09-3329 CW, C 09-4882 CW (N.D. Cal.), and she has related the *Alston* action to those cases. The related cases may involve similar questions of fact and law and are very likely to involve similar defenses from the NCAA. Chief Judge Wilken's experience over the past five years with *Keller* and *O'Bannon* will eliminate any learning curve, and give her a wealth of pre-existing knowledge and experience in dealing with the issues presented by this litigation.
- Defendant The Pacific Twelve Conference has its primary place of business in the Northern District of California, in Walnut Creek, within 15 minutes of Chief Judge Wilken's Oakland courthouse;
- The Northern District of California is easily accessible to all parties, and well served by three major airports within the District.

II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

On March 5, 2014, Plaintiff Shawne Alston ("Alston") filed a putative class action complaint (the "Complaint") in the Northern District of California on behalf of certain current or former college athletes at NCAA member universities whose athletic scholarships and other forms of financial remuneration were limited by the athletic grant-in-aid cap imposed by Defendants NCAA, The Pacific 12 Conference, The Big Ten Conference, Inc., The Big Twelve Conference, Inc., the Southeastern Conference, and the Atlantic Coast Conference (the "Class" or "Class Members"). Specifically, Plaintiff Alston brought claims on behalf of all persons who received athletic grants-in-aid for participation in college football from a college or university that is a member of the five above-mentioned NCAA conferences at any time between four years prior to the filing of the Complaint, and the date of judgment in this matter. *See Alston v. National Collegiate Athletic*

Association., et al, 4:14-cv-01011-CW, (complaint attached hereto as Exhibit 1 to the Schedule of Actions).

Plaintiff Alston brought his class action litigation against the NCAA and the five most powerful football conferences, claiming that these entities have unlawfully agreed in violation of federal antitrust laws to cap the value of athletic grant-in-aids. Plaintiff contends that the NCAA's cap on the value of athletic scholarships is far below the actual cost of attending school, and even further below what the free market would bear. Plaintiff and the putative class seek past damages for the difference between the capped amount of an athletic grant-in-aid and the true cost of attending school. Plaintiff also seeks an injunction barring the NCAA from enforcing the athletic grant-in-aid cap.

A. Other Cases

One other putative class action complaint has been filed on behalf of current or former college athletes attending NCAA universities whose scholarships and other forms of financial remuneration were limited by the grant-in-aid cap imposed by the NCAA, and its members The Pacific 12 Conference, The Big Ten Conference, Inc., The Big Twelve Conference, Inc., the Southeastern Conference, and the Atlantic Coast Conference. *See Jenkins et al v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, et al*, Case No. 3:14-cv-01678-FLW-LHG (D. N.J.). The allegations in the *Jenkins* case are substantially similar to those in the *Alston* complaint, particularly in regards to the injunctive relief sought in both actions.

III. ARGUMENT

A. **Transfer of the NCAA Athletic Grant-In-Aid Antitrust Litigation actions for Coordination and Consolidation is Appropriate Under 28 U.S.C. § 1407**

The Panel should transfer and consolidate these cases in a single district because: (1) the actions involve numerous common questions of fact and law, and (2) consolidation will convenience the parties and witnesses, and will promote the just and efficient conduct of this litigation. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1407(a).

1. **These Actions Involve Multiple Common Questions of Fact and Law**

When multiple actions pending in different districts contain one or more common questions of fact, such actions may be coordinated or consolidated in one district for pretrial proceedings. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1407(a). The NCAA Athletic Grant-in-Aid class actions share multiple common questions of fact and law, including but not limited to:

- a. whether Section 1 of the Sherman Antitrust Act was violated by Defendants' conduct;
- b. whether a *per se* or quick look analysis is appropriate under the Sherman Antitrust Act;
- c. whether Defendants conspired to impose a limit on athletic grants-in-aid that Plaintiffs could receive as college athletes;
- d. whether class action treatment is appropriate;
- e. whether injunctive relief is appropriate; and

These common issues give the Panel the authority to order the transfer, consolidation, and coordination of these actions to a single judicial district. *See, e.g., In re Cement & Concrete Antitrust Litig.*, 437 F. Supp. 750 (J.P.M.L. 1977) (ordering transfer and consolidation of cases upon

a finding of common questions of fact concerning the existence and scope of an antitrust conspiracy).

2. Consolidation in a Single Judicial District Will Convenience the Parties and Witnesses in the Related Actions and Promote the Just and Efficient Conduct of the Related Actions

Centralization under 28 U.S.C. § 1407 is proper when it will “serve the convenience of the parties and witnesses and promote the just and efficient conduct of [the] litigation.” *In re Hydrogen Peroxide Antitrust Litig.*, 374 F. Supp. 2d 1345, 1346 (J.P.M.L. 2005). Without transfer and consolidation of these related actions, the Northern District of California, the District of New Jersey, and any other courts in which subsequent tag-along actions are filed, will each have to make separate inquiries into a substantially similar set of facts involving virtually the same parties and witnesses. These overlapping factual inquiries would certainly inconvenience the parties and the witnesses as they will be forced to make appearances in both venues to resolve the same issues.

Maintaining the actions in separate districts is also likely to result in uncertainty among the parties and witnesses who may be subjected to multiple rulings and protocols regarding the same factual and legal issues. Under these circumstances, coordination and consolidation of these cases into a single judicial district will convenience the parties by: (1) streamlining discovery; (2) preventing duplicative discovery requests and depositions; (3) preventing duplicative court appearances; and (4) sparing the parties and witnesses the expense and inconvenience of participating in litigation in the District of New Jersey, and any other judicial districts where subsequent related actions may be filed.

Furthermore, transfer and consolidation of the actions in a single district is in the interest of justice because it will prevent the possibility of multiple inconsistent rulings on the common factual and legal issues in the related actions, including injunctive relief.

B. These Actions Should be Consolidated in the Northern District of California

In choosing a transferee forum, the Panel considers which judicial district is best suited to promote the purpose of 28 U.S.C. § 1407 in ensuring convenience of the parties and the just and efficient conduct of the litigation. In this case, each of these considerations favors transfer to the Northern District of California because: (1) there is a strong nexus between the Northern District of California and the parties to the current litigation; (2) the Northern District of California is the most convenient forum for the parties and witnesses in this matter; and (3) the Northern District of California has the judicial resources and expertise to efficiently manage this antitrust litigation.

1. Strong Nexus Between the Northern District of California and the Parties to the Current Litigation

When making its determination whether to consolidate cases pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407, the Panel often considers whether there is a nexus between the parties to the litigation and a particular transferee forum. A nexus will exist where key facilities are located. *See In re Guidant Corp. Implantable Defibrillators Prods. Liability Litig.*, 398 F. Supp. 2d 1371, 1372 (J.P.M.L. 2005). These facilities will be “where many relevant documents and witnesses are likely to be found.” *In re Delphi Corp. Sec., Derivative and “ERISA” Litig.*, 403 F. Supp. 2d 1358, 1360 (J.P.M.L. 2005).

Defendant The Pacific Twelve Conference has its principal place of business at 1350 Treat Boulevard, Suite 500, Walnut Creek, California. The Pacific Twelve Conference is home to twelve different universities with collectively thousands of student-athletes who are likely class members. Relevant documents and witnesses will certainly be found at the facilities in Walnut Creek. Additionally, many potential witnesses, such as current and former college athletes from local Pacific Twelve Conference universities reside in the Northern District of California. The Northern District of California is home to two Pacific Twelve Schools: the University of California (“Cal”)

and Stanford University, and would be the most likely location for many witnesses. Other Defendants have already employed local counsel in San Francisco, including the Atlantic Coast Conference (represented by Holland & Knight attorneys in San Francisco). *See In re Allegheny Energy, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 259 F. Supp. 2d 1368, 1369 (J.P.M.L. 2003) (the Northern District of California was an appropriate transferee forum because the corporate defendant and most of the individual defendants resided there, and the district was likely to be the location of significant discovery activity). Therefore, a strong nexus exists between these defendants and the Northern District of California.

2. The Northern District of California is the Most Convenient Forum

The Panel considers which district is the most convenient for the parties and witnesses when deciding where to transfer an MDL action. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1407(a) (transfers shall be made by the Panel based upon its determination that such transfers “will be for the convenience of parties and witnesses...”). The Northern District of California is located in an area with an abundance of hotels, taxis, rental cars, and other necessary litigation resources. San Francisco International Airport, Oakland International Airport, and Mineta San Jose International Airport service the Northern District of California, making it easily accessible to all parties. Further, Defendant The Pacific Twelve Conference is located in Walnut Creek, within an hour drive of each of the Northern District's Courts. In addition, as stated above, it is likely that witnesses from the Pacific Twelve Conference, as well as from Cal and Stanford, two of its member universities, will be essential to the prosecution of this case.

3. The Northern District of California has the Judicial Resources and Expertise to Efficiently Manage This Litigation

The Northern District of California has handled countless complex MDL proceedings. The Northern District Judges are not only extremely competent, but have a wealth of experience handling

some of the world's most complex proceedings, such as antitrust and securities actions, and are very familiar with the intricacies of complex suits involving antitrust issues. *See, e.g., In Re Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM) Antitrust Litigation*, No. 4:02-md-01486 (N.D. Cal. 2002) (Hamilton, J.); *In re TFT-LCD (Flat Panel) Antitrust Litigation*, No. 3:07-md-1827 (N.D. Cal. 2007) (Illston, J.); *In re Methionine Antitrust Litig.*, No. 00-1311 (N.D. Cal. 2000) (Breyer, J.); *In re Informix Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No. 97-1289 (N.D. Cal. 1997) (Breyer, J.); *In re Sorbates Direct Purchaser Antitrust Litig.*, No. 98-4886 (N.D. Cal. 1998) (Legge, J.); *Meijer v. Abbott Laboratories*, C-07-05985 (N.D. Cal. 2007) (Wilken, J.); and *In re: Lithium Ion Batteries Antitrust Litig.*, No. 4:13-md-02420-YGR (N.D. Cal. 2013) (Gonzalez Rogers, J.).

While both courts are very capable, the Northern District of California is better suited to handle this case when compared to the District of New Jersey. The District of New Jersey as a whole has 18 pending MDL actions, compared to only 15 for the Northern District of California, despite the fact that the each Court has 24 active judges. *See MDL Statistics Report – Distribution of Pending MDL Dockets* (Report Date: 3/13/2014), *available at* http://www.jpml.uscourts.gov/sites/jpml/files/PendingMDL_Dockets_By_District-March-13-2014.pdf. Moreover, no less than five new judges have been added to the Northern District bench since 2013, including three this year (2013: Judges Tigar and Orrick; 2014: Judges Donato, Freeman and Chhabria). As a result, the case load for Chief Judge Wilken and other judges in the Northern District of California may soon drop. Even before the addition of these three judges, the Northern District of California was the more

efficient district in handling civil cases, with a Median Time from Filing to Trial in civil cases of 27.4 months, compared to New Jersey's 36.2 months.¹

(a) **Chief Judge Wilken is Particularly Well Suited to Preside Over This Case**

Chief Judge Wilken is particularly well-suited to handle these related cases for several reasons. First and foremost, Chief Judge Wilken has been handling two related NCAA antitrust and right of publicity cases since their inception in 2009, including *O'Bannon v. National Collegiate Athletic Ass'n*, Nos. C 09–3329 CW, C 09–4882 CW and *Keller v. Electronic Arts., Inc.* No. C 09–1967 CW (N.D. Cal.) (Wilken, J.). After Plaintiff Alston filed his complaint, Chief Judge Wilken related the *Alston* case to her other NCAA antitrust cases. *See* Related Case Order, *Alston v. NCAA*, No. 4:14-cv-01011-CW (March 17, 2014, Dkt. No. 20). Pursuant to the Local Rules of the Northern District of California, that means that Chief Judge Wilken has already determined that the actions concern substantially the same parties, property, transaction or event, and it appears likely that there will be an unduly burdensome duplication of labor and expense or conflicting results if the cases are conducted before different judges. (N.D. Cal Local Rule 3-12 (a)).

The Panel favors transfer of cases to districts with similar cases. *See In Re Cook Medical, Inc., Pelvic Repair System Products Liability Litigation*, 2013 WL 2536351 (J.P.M.L. June 10, 2013) (centralizing multiple pelvic repair MDLs to the same district, but keeping the MDL actions separate because the Panel found “the unique facts presented by individual plaintiffs to be less significant than the fact that these actions share core issues of fact” and that “[c]entralization will eliminate duplicative discovery, prevent inconsistent pretrial rulings, and conserve the resources of the parties,

¹ *See* Federal Court Management Statistics September 2013, *available at* <http://www.uscourts.gov/Statistics/FederalCourtManagementStatistics/district-courts-september-2013.aspx>

their counsel, and the judiciary.”). Here, Chief Judge Wilken is already handling related cases, and will benefit from a wealth of case law and experience dealing with substantially the same defenses that the NCAA is likely to raise in this case.

Second, Chief Judge Wilken has no currently pending MDL cases before her and is well equipped to add an MDL case to her docket. *See, supra*, MDL Statistics Report – Distribution of Pending MDL Dockets. The Panel has often recognized the desirability of transferring MDL cases to a judge who “is not currently assigned to another such docket,” and thus will be well-equipped to manage the litigation. *In re Bayer Corp. Combination Aspirin Prods. Mktg. & Sales Practices Litig.*, 609 F. Supp. 2d 1379, 1380 (J.P.M.L. 2009); *see also In re Lithium Ion Batteries Antitrust Litigation*, 2013 WL 500765 (J.P.M.L. Feb. 6, 2013) (“centralization in this district provides us the opportunity to assign the litigation to a judge who is not presently presiding over other multidistrict litigation”). By contrast, Judge Wolfson, to whom the *Jenkins v. National Collegiate Athletic Association* action has been assigned, already has one pending MDL, *In re: Plavix Marketing, Sales Practices and Products Liability Litigation* (No. II) (MDL No. 2418). *See, supra*, MDL Statistics Report – Distribution of Pending MDL Dockets.

Third, Chief Judge Wilken is currently the Chief Judge of the Northern District, meaning she will be able to keep this case before her without question. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 137 (the Chief Judge has the power to assign cases). Chief Judge Wilken also recently elected to take senior status at the end of 2014, meaning she will have a reduced caseload thereafter, and more time to devote to this important case. *See Chief Judge Wilken to Take Senior Status In December 2014*, <http://www.cand.uscourts.gov/news/145>. She related this case to herself knowing that her status would change at the end of the year, indicating her willingness to preside over the case.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the aforementioned reasons, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Panel order the consolidation of these related class actions in the Northern District of California under 28 U.S.C. § 1407, “for the convenience of parties and witnesses and to promote the just and efficient conduct of such actions.”

DATED: March 19, 2014

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**BEFORE THE UNITED STATES JUDICIAL PANEL
ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION**

IN RE: NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC) MDL-_____
ASSOCIATION ATHLETIC GRANT-IN-AID)
ANTITRUST LITIGATION)
_____)

SCHEDULE OF ACTIONS

Attached hereto as Exhibits 1-2 are true and correct copies of the complaints and docket reports filed in the cases listed below.

Exhibit Number	Case Captions	Court	Civil Action No.	Judge
1.	Plaintiffs: Shawne Alston Defendants: National Collegiate Athletic Association, The Pacific 12 Conference, The Big Ten Conference, Inc., The Big Twelve Conference, Inc., the Southeastern Conference, and the Atlantic Coast Conference	N.D. California	4:14-cv-01011-CW	United States District Court Judge Claudia Wilken
2.	Plaintiffs: Martin Jenkins Johnathan Moore Kevin Perry William Tyndall Defendants: National Collegiate Athletic	D. New Jersey	3:14-cv-01678-FLW-LHG	United States District Court Judge Freda L. Wolfson

	Association, The Pacific 12 Conference, The Big Ten Conference, Inc., The Big Twelve Conference, Inc., the Southeastern Conference, and the Atlantic Coast Conference			
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ASSOCIATION ATHLETIC GRANT-IN-AID)
ANTITRUST LITIGATION)
_____)

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the Motion of Plaintiff Shawne Alston for Transfer of Actions to the Northern District of California Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407 For Coordinated or Consolidated Pretrial Proceedings, the Schedule of Actions, and this Proof of Service were served via First Class U.S. mail, postage prepaid on March 20, 2014 on the following:

United States District Court Northern District of California Phillip Burton Federal Building Clerk of the Court 450 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102	United States District Court District of New Jersey Clarkson S. Fisher Building Clerk of the Court 402 East State Street Trenton, NJ 08608
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EXHIBIT 1

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SHAWNE ALSTON, on behalf of himself and
all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION; PACIFIC 12 CONFERENCE;
THE BIG TEN CONFERENCE, INC.; THE
BIG TWELVE CONFERENCE, INC.;
SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE; and
ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE,

Defendant.

No.

COMPLAINT

CLASS ACTION

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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Plaintiff Shawne Alston on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, hereby brings class action claims against Defendant National Collegiate Athletic Association (“NCAA”), and five of the most powerful members of the NCAA, the so-called “Power Conferences,” *i.e.*, Defendants Pacific 12 Conference, The Big Ten Conference, Inc., The Big Twelve Conference, Inc., Southeastern Conference, and Atlantic Coast Conference (the Power Conferences are also collectively referred to herein as the “Power Conference Defendants”). Plaintiff, by and through his attorneys, alleges as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. College football is a big business for the universities and conferences that are members of Division I, the NCAA’s top-tier. In particular, Division I football, played in the Power Conferences within Division I’s Football Bowl Subdivision, generates billions of dollars a year in revenue. Not a single dollar of that revenue, however, would exist if it were not for the efforts of the Football Bowl Subdivision football players themselves.

2. Players are essentially working full-time football jobs and going to school. The NCAA and Power Conference Defendants have studied and acknowledged that a so-called “full ride” scholarship does not cover the full cost of attending school. Athletes are often a few thousand dollars short for the typical expenses of a student. These costs include money for gas, food, and other necessities. While players scrimp, coaches and universities most certainly do not. The average salary for major college football coaches is over \$2 million, with some coaches earning over seven million. The top football schools earn enormous amounts from football. For example, team annual revenue for some of the top five programs in 2011-12 was as follows:

Texas:	\$109,000,000
Michigan:	\$ 85,229,247
Alabama:	\$ 81,993,762
Auburn:	\$ 77,170,242
Georgia:	\$ 74,989,418

3. Revenue is not the only large number, profits are also high. Alabama’s football program made \$47 million in 2012 and Texas made \$81 million. Other schools are as follows:

Top 10 schools for 2012 profit	
<u>School</u>	<u>Profit</u>
Texas	\$81.7
Alabama	\$47.1
Michigan	\$58.4
Notre Dame	\$46.0
Georgia	\$51.3
Auburn	\$38.8
Florida	\$49.1
LSU	\$48.5
Oklahoma	\$45.1
Arkansas	\$31.6 ¹

4. How is it that players cannot even make ends meet while the schools make tens of millions? The NCAA and the Power Conferences have agreed that Football Bowl Subdivision football players may only receive payments that the NCAA approves and the Power Conference schools agree to. The primary form of payment is an athletic scholarship, formally known as a “grant-in-aid.” The NCAA and Power Conferences have agreed to unlawfully cap the value of a grant-in-aid at an amount substantially below what a Football Bowl Subdivision football player would receive for his services in a competitive market, and at an amount below what it costs to attend school. This agreement violates the Sherman Act.

5. The value of a grant-in-aid is often several thousand dollars below the actual cost of attending a school (the “Cost of Attendance,” an amount published by each school). In the highly competitive marketplace of Power Conference football, every Football Bowl Subdivision football player unquestionably would receive a grant-in-aid that actually covers the Cost of Attendance. Indeed, as shown in great detail below, each of the five Power Conference Defendants stated that if they were not bound by the collusive agreement among themselves and their co-conspirators that comprise Division I, they would implement such an increase. Moreover, if collusion among

¹ Read more here: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2013/12/17/5427172/expenses-rise-in-business-of-college.html#storylink=cpy>.

1 conferences were eliminated, every Football Bowl Subdivision football player likely would receive
2 further *additional* compensation above the Cost of Attendance.

3 6. Plaintiff, on behalf of Football Bowl Subdivision football players who played on
4 teams in the Power Conferences and who received grants-in-aid in the last four years, seeks two
5 specific remedies via this Complaint. First, an injunction that enjoins the NCAA and the Power
6 Conference Defendants from maintaining and abiding by the present NCAA Bylaw that limits
7 financial aid to the presently-defined GIA; and Second, an award of damages for the difference
8 between the grants-in-aid awarded and the Cost of Attendance. Plaintiff believes that the requested
9 injunction will result in a less restricted and more competitive marketplace for the services of
10 Football Bowl Subdivision football players. In that marketplace, most, if not all, Football Bowl
11 Subdivision football players will obtain future compensation in an amount no less than the Cost of
12 Attendance.

13 7. Numerous reasonable and less restrictive alternatives are available to Defendants'
14 current anti-competitive practices. For example, one less restrictive alternative may be to allow the
15 Power Conference Defendants to compete among themselves and against their co-conspirator
16 conferences within Football Bowl Subdivision as to the financial aid terms that conference members
17 will make available to college football players. Such incremental competition would allay the fears
18 (even though unfounded) of those that decry the repercussions of an instantaneous transition to a
19 wide-open free market, with every school making its own independent decisions.

20 8. The NCAA, through its President, Mark Emmert, repeatedly acknowledged that the
21 capped grant-in-aid is insufficient to meet even the basic economic needs of college athletes. He
22 stated in December 2013 that, "we've been working on that for 2½ years. They were talking about
23 that long before I showed up. We don't need a lawsuit to do the right thing. That's important for
24 people to know."² In fact, the NCAA created the issue in the first place, by first imposing a collusive
25 cap on grants-in-aid in 1956, and then by removing a Cost of Attendance stipend in 1973. Ever
26 since, the NCAA has periodically been "working" on the issue, with no significant changes to the

27 ² [http://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/college/2013/12/11/mark-emmert-ncaa-lawsuit-ed-](http://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/college/2013/12/11/mark-emmert-ncaa-lawsuit-ed-obannon-ea-sports-collegiate-licensing-co/3987907/)
28 [obannon-ea-sports-collegiate-licensing-co/3987907/](http://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/college/2013/12/11/mark-emmert-ncaa-lawsuit-ed-obannon-ea-sports-collegiate-licensing-co/3987907/).

1 capped grant-in-aid limitations. Despite the NCAA's public comments concerning the needs of
2 college athletes, the collusive cap on grants-in-aid remains in place.

3 9. At a typical NCAA member institution, however, the allowable costs covered by an
4 athletics "grant-in-aid" are in fact several thousand dollars short, per year, per athlete, compared to
5 what it actually costs a college athlete to attend school. The NCAA quite accurately calls the larger
6 cost number the "Cost of Attendance," which the NCAA defines in its rules as "an amount calculated
7 by an institutional financial aid office, using federal regulations, that includes the total cost of tuition
8 and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, and other expenses related to
9 attendance at the institution." Through collusive agreement among all Division I members of the
10 NCAA, the artificial cap on athletics financial aid is set below the amount of the full Cost of
11 Attendance that any student would incur to attend the relevant colleges and universities. This
12 agreement is enshrined in the Bylaws of the NCAA which serve, in essence, as the contract (as in the
13 Sherman Act's prohibition on any contract, combination, or conspiracy in restraint of trade) among
14 the conspirators, making the agreement explicit, and authorizing various cartel policing measures
15 against any school that violates the price-fixing agreement. The NCAA thus arbitrarily restricts
16 athletics financial aid to amounts that are less than the athletes would receive in a competitive market
17 and then enforces that agreement through threat of sanctions ranging from loss of the ability to
18 compete (through loss of scholarships) all the way to a full collective boycott of all other members
19 known colloquially as "the death penalty." The NCAA thus arbitrarily restricts athletics financial aid
20 to amounts that are less than the athletes would receive in a competitive market.

21 10. A 2012 study concluded that "[i]n 2011-2012, the range of out-of-pocket expenses for
22 a 'full' scholarship athlete in the Football Bowl Subdivision was \$1000/year to \$6904/year
23 depending on the institution. Meanwhile, the NCAA restricts the value of the full scholarship to a
24 level of compensation that is at or below the poverty level for many athletes at a time when,
25 according to President of IMG College, Ben Sutton, 'college sport is indisputably on fire' in terms of
26 its capacity to generate revenue and television ratings."

27 11. By denying Football Bowl Subdivision football players, both those who play in the
28 Power Conferences and those against whom they compete within the Football Bowl Subdivision

1 market, the benefits of economic competition, the grant-in-aid cap has imposed a lower standard of
2 living and significant hardships on many of them. Those athletes have much less time and ability to
3 earn money through part-time jobs than do other students. Those athletes are more likely to come
4 from low-income households than other students. Those athletes are more likely to incur substantial
5 travel costs to attend school than other students. Indeed, the NCAA has exacerbated the effects of
6 the grant-in-aid cap by collusively restricting the ability of Class Members to earn extra money
7 through part-time work.

8 12. The NCAA's conduct violates the federal antitrust laws. The NCAA, the Power
9 Conferences, and their member schools have illegally colluded to artificially depress the value of an
10 athletics grant-in-aid, to the economic detriment of Plaintiff and Class Members. The NCAA and its
11 members have further agreed not to compete with respect to grants-in-aid for athletes. The artificial
12 cap on grants-in-aid is set well below what schools would choose to offer to athletes in the absence
13 of collusion. And it is clear that among members of the Power Conference Defendants, non-
14 collusive scholarship offers would rise to at least cover the full Cost of Attendance, and likely much
15 more. The NCAA thus arbitrarily restricts athletics financial aid to amounts that are less than the
16 athletes would receive in a competitive market.

17 13. There is no reasonable justification or legal defense for the athletics grant-in-aid cap.
18 In particular, the athletics grant-in-aid cap is not necessary to promote any interest in preserving the
19 NCAA's dubious version of "amateurism." Rather, the NCAA's athletics grant-in-aid cap is simply
20 a cost containment mechanism that enables the NCAA and its member institutions to preserve more
21 of the benefits of their lucrative enterprise for themselves.

22 14. After the NCAA's own Board of Governors recently approved a proposal to allow so-
23 called "stipends" to cover the gap between the capped grants-in-aid and the true Cost of Attendance
24 as being fully compatible with the principles of "amateurism" as the NCAA defines them, the
25 NCAA's members overrode that approval and rejected it. The NCAA stated that members rejected
26 the proposal because of a desire to control costs, and not for a pro-competitive objective. However,
27 under the antitrust laws, a defendant's desire to save costs – and thereby increase profits at the
28

1 expense of other participants in the market – is not a legitimate justification for the grant-in-aid cap
2 or any other horizontal agreement to restrict price or output.

3 15. Defendants have been very successful at suppressing the basic economic rights of
4 Football Bowl Subdivision football players under their direct control. The NCAA does so, in part,
5 by cloaking its actions in governmental terminology, such as “Constitution” and “legislation” and
6 “infraction” to relentlessly reinforce the notion that its powers are coterminous with that of a
7 governmental regulatory body. But the NCAA is not a governmental entity. It simply is a business,
8 no different than any other in this country, and should be treated as such.

9 16. The leadership of the NCAA has, for several years, made copious public statements
10 *directly supporting*, in part, the structural relief that Plaintiff seeks here – the lifting of the artificial
11 cap on the value of athletics grants-in-aid. The NCAA Board of Directors, rather than arguing that a
12 cap below the Cost of Attendance is necessary to produce college football, voted for the exact
13 opposite – demonstrating that such an increase in the cap would have no adverse affects on the sport.
14 Moreover, the leadership of every major NCAA member conference (including all five of the Power
15 Conference Defendants) has made similar public statements of support. Additionally, numerous
16 high-profile school administrators and coaches have also made similar public statements of support.
17 And yet, year after year, no actual change is made.

18 17. Defendants insist on acting collectively and collusively with each other, or not acting
19 at all. But they also admit that it is their collusion with other NCAA members that prevents them
20 from acting. Why? Because they all have agreed to be bound by outmoded and anti-competitive
21 NCAA Bylaws. Defendants thus repeatedly claim powerlessness, year after year, to change their
22 lucrative status quo, because smaller NCAA members will not agree to the change. Were the Power
23 Conference Defendants to act independently, each would raise the grant-in-aid cap above the current
24 levels. Defendants have proven to be unable to, in the words of NCAA President Emmert, “self-
25 regulate.” Plaintiff requests this Court’s assistance to require Defendants to comply with the law.
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II. THE PARTIES

A. Plaintiff

18. Plaintiff Shawne Alston, an individual, is a resident of Newport News, Virginia and the former starting running back for the West Virginia University football team.

19. Plaintiff Shawne Alston was a heavily recruited three star athlete from Hampton, Virginia. In high school, Alston ran for over 2400 yards and 38 touchdowns and was named a first team all-state running back after leading Phoebus High School to a Virginia state championship during his senior year.

20. The football star received scholarship offers from West Virginia, East Carolina, Illinois, Maryland, and Penn State. Each school offered an athletic scholarship covering the Cost of Attendance as calculated by the school.

21. West Virginia University's head football Coach, Bill Stewart, for example, offered Alston a "full Football Grant-in-Aid" to attend WVU on or about June 18, 2008. The letter stated: The Grant-in-Aid, beginning Fall 2009, consists of:

- a. Tuition and Registration Fees
- b. Required Course-Related Fees
- c. Room
- d. Meals; and
- e. Required Textbooks.

22. In addition, WVU offered to allow Alston to begin classes in the summer of 2009, under the same terms and conditions outlined in the June 18, 2008 letter. Alston accepted the grant-in-aid and committed to play football and attend school at WVU on or about February 2009 and enrolled at WVU in the summer of 2009.

23. Alston's recruiting class was ranked 19th nationally by Rivals.com, and first in the Big East Conference.

24. Alston played his first football game at WVU in fall 2009, as a true freshman. During the 2009-2010 school year, Alston was a full-time, non-resident student living on-campus. Alston

1 fulfilled all WVU academic and athletic requirements during the 2009-2010 school year, and was a
2 student in good standing at all times.

3 25. Given his academic and athletic obligations, it was not feasible for Alston to work
4 during the academic year.

5 26. According to the University of West Virginia, the Cost of Attendance for a non-
6 resident, on-campus student for the 2009-2010 academic year was approximately \$38,920.00. This
7 figure includes estimated tuition and fees, books and supplies, loan fees, "maintenance," and room
8 and board. Notably, this figure also includes \$11,776.00 in summer tuition for 2010.

9 27. For the 2009-2010 academic year, the grant-in-aid money Alston received from WVU
10 was substantially less than the full Cost of Attendance.

11 28. During his freshman year, WVU offered to renew Alston's athletic scholarship for his
12 sophomore year under the same terms and conditions. Alston accepted the offer.

13 29. As a sophomore (2010-2011), Alston fulfilled all athletic and academic requirements
14 to maintain his scholarship, and was a student in good standing at all times.

15 30. Alston was a full-time, non-resident student living off-campus during his sophomore
16 year. And like his freshman year, it was not feasible for Alston to work during the academic year
17 given his academic and athletic obligations.

18 31. According to the University of West Virginia, the Cost of Attendance for a non-
19 resident, off-campus student for the 2010-2011 academic year was approximately \$40,007.00. This
20 figure includes tuition, books and supplies, lab fees, loan fees, "personal and transportation," and
21 room and board. Notably, this figure also includes \$12,171.00 in summer tuition.

22 32. For the 2010-2011 academic year, the grant-in-aid money Alston received from WVU
23 was substantially less than the full Cost of Attendance.

24 33. During his sophomore year, WVU offered to renew Alston's athletic scholarship for
25 his junior year under the same terms and conditions. Alston accepted the offer.

26 34. As a junior (2011-2012), Alston fulfilled all athletic and academic requirements to
27 maintain his scholarship, and was a student in good standing at all times.

1 35. Alston was a full-time, non-resident student living off-campus during his junior year.
2 And like all prior years, it was not feasible for Alston to work during the academic year given his
3 academic and athletic obligations.

4 36. During his junior year, Alston led his team in touchdowns and yards per carry. The
5 WVU Mountaineers were ranked in the top 25 for most of the season and played Clemson in the
6 Bowl Championship Series Orange Bowl. The WVU Mountaineers were underdogs against the 14th
7 ranked Clemson Tigers. Alston and his fellow Mountaineers, however, would go on to crush the
8 Tigers 70-33 and set several bowl records for scoring.

9 37. According to the University of West Virginia, the Cost of Attendance for the 2011-
10 2012 academic year for a non-resident, off-campus student, was approximately \$41,638.00. This
11 includes tuition, books and supplies, loan fees, "personal and transportation," and room and board.
12 Notably, this figure also includes \$12,680.00 in summer tuition.

13 38. For the 2011-2012 academic year, the grant-in-aid money Alston received from WVU
14 was substantially less than the full Cost of Attendance.

15 39. Alston graduated on in the summer of 2012, three years after first enrolling at WVU.
16 After graduating, he continued taking classes at WVU.

17 40. Before graduating, WVU offered to renew Alston's athletic scholarship for his senior
18 year under the same terms and conditions. Alston accepted the offer and continued to take
19 undergraduate courses.

20 41. As a senior (2012-2013), Alston fulfilled all athletic and academic requirements to
21 maintain his scholarship, and was a student in good standing at all times.

22 42. Throughout his senior year, Alston was a full-time, non-resident student living off-
23 campus. And like all prior years, it was not feasible for Alston to work during the academic year
24 given his academic and athletic obligations.

25 43. During his senior year, Alston scored seven touchdowns and again led his team in
26 yards per carry. The team was ranked as high as eighth in the nation during the year, and went on to
27 play in the Pinstripe Bowl against Syracuse University.
28

44. According to the University of West Virginia, the Cost of Attendance for Alston's senior year, for a full-time non-resident, off-campus student was approximately \$34,561.00. This included tuition, books and supplies, loan fees, "personal and transportation," and room and board.

45. For the 2012-2013 academic year, the grant-in-aid money Alston received from WVU was substantially less than the full Cost of Attendance. To help bridge this gap, Alston took out \$5,500.00 in Federal Direct Subsidized Loans.

46. In 2013, after completing his college career and graduating from WVU, Alston signed as a free agent contract with the New Orleans Saints. Alston was released in June 2013 and retired from organized football shortly thereafter.

47. Alston is now in graduate school pursuing a Masters of Business Administration.

B. Defendants

48. Defendant the National Collegiate Athletic Association (the "NCAA") describes itself as an "unincorporated not-for-profit educational organization founded in 1906," and maintains its principal place of business in Indianapolis, Indiana. The NCAA further states that it "is the organization through which the colleges and universities of the nation speak and act on athletic matters at the national level." It is composed of more than 1,200 colleges, universities, and athletic conferences, including the Power Conference Defendants, located throughout the United States.

49. Through the NCAA Constitution and Bylaws, the NCAA and its members have adopted regulations governing all aspects of college sports. The NCAA Constitution and Bylaws were adopted by votes of the member institutions and may be amended by votes of the member institutions. Thus, the rules set forth in the NCAA Constitution and Bylaws constitute horizontal agreements between the NCAA and its members and between members of the NCAA. With respect to the Division I "grant-in-aid" they constitute a series of annually renewed, horizontal price-fixing agreements.

50. The NCAA includes 1,102 active member schools, and these schools are organized into three Divisions. Division I includes 351 schools, including 242 with extensive football programs. Divisions II and III include schools with much less extensive or no football programs. As a practical matter, any academic institution that wishes to participate in any meaningful way in the

1 highest and most popular levels of college football must maintain membership in the NCAA and
 2 abide by the Division I rules and regulations promulgated by the NCAA and its members. There is
 3 no practical alternative to Division I NCAA membership for any academic institution that wishes to
 4 participate at the highest levels of college football.

5 51. Because the NCAA and NCAA member institutions control the highest and most
 6 popular levels of college football, any individual who wishes to provide athletic services in exchange
 7 for the payment of full tuition for an undergraduate academic and athletic education must, by
 8 necessity, attend an NCAA Division I member institution. There are zero practical alternatives that
 9 can provide the unique combination of attributes offered by Division I NCAA football schools:
 10 (i) the ability to exchange athletics services for the payment of educational costs plus room and
 11 board; (ii) high quality academic educational services; (iii) top-of-the-line training facilities; (iv) high
 12 quality coaches that will best be able to launch players to professional careers; (v) national publicity
 13 through nationwide scheduling of games and nationwide broadcasting contracts; and (vi) competition
 14 at the highest level of college football by competing for the same institution where one is also a
 15 student.

16 52. There is no major college football program in the United States that is not an NCAA
 17 Division I member, abiding by the NCAA rules. Division I NCAA member institutions are by far
 18 the largest purchasers of student football labor in the United States, and the NCAA and its Division I
 19 member institutions have monopsony power over the market for student football players.

20 53. The NCAA maintains a staff of over 300 individuals at its headquarters, and has an
 21 \$800 million dollar annual budget.³

22 54. Defendant NCAA during the Class Period participated in the collusive restraint of
 23 trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby damaged Class Members,
 24 and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.

25 55. Defendant **Pacific-12 Conference (“Pac 12”)** is an unincorporated association, with
 26 its principal place of business located in this District at 1350 Treat Boulevard, Suite 500, Walnut

27 ³ [http://www.bloomberg.com/consumer-spending/2012-03-21/the-real-cost-of-march-](http://www.bloomberg.com/consumer-spending/2012-03-21/the-real-cost-of-march-madness.html#slide5)
 28 [madness.html#slide5](http://www.bloomberg.com/consumer-spending/2012-03-21/the-real-cost-of-march-madness.html#slide5).

1 Creek, CA 94597. The Pac 12 is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference, and a formal
2 “conference member” of Defendant NCAA’s Division I. In its 2011 IRS Form 990, the most recent
3 one available for public inspection, the Pac 12 identified itself as a tax-exempt organization pursuant
4 to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and stated that, for its fiscal year ending
5 June 30, 2012, it obtained gross revenues of \$175,898,248. The Pac 12’s “2013-14 Handbook”
6 states that the Pac 12 was organized for purposes including: “[t]o provide its members with a jointly
7 governed body for sponsoring, supervising and regulating intercollegiate athletics as a conference
8 member of the National Collegiate Athletics Association (‘NCAA’) in accordance with the
9 principles, policies, constitution and bylaws of the NCAA” and “[t]o assist its members in funding
10 and promoting their intercollegiate athletics programs.”

11 56. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Pac 12’s current members are the following
12 twelve (12) institutions: University of Arizona, Arizona State University, University of California,
13 Berkeley, University of Colorado, University of Oregon, Oregon State University, Stanford
14 University, University of California, Los Angeles, University of Southern California, University of
15 Utah, University of Washington, and Washington State University. All of the Pac 12’s football
16 members are also members of the NCAA’s Division I, Football Bowl Subdivision.

17 57. The Pac 12 is one of ten (10) NCAA member conferences that managed, until this
18 January, the highly lucrative Bowl Championship Series, which identified itself as “a five-game
19 college football showcase. The Bowl Championship Series, which has recently been retired in favor
20 of a College Football Playoff, was designed to ensure that the top two teams in the country meet in
21 the national championship game and to create exciting and competitive matchups among eight other
22 highly regarded teams in four other [postseason] bowl games.” The Pac 12 was one of six
23 “automatic qualifying” conferences for Bowl Championship Series purposes. This meant that the
24 Pac 12 received an automatic berth into one of the five Bowl Championship Series postseason bowl
25 games. Further details regarding the Pac 12 are provided herein.

26 58. Defendant Pac 12 during the Class Period participated in the collusive restraint of
27 trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby damaged Class Members,
28 and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.

59. Defendant **The Big Ten Conference, Inc. (the “Big Ten”)** is a nonprofit corporation, organized under the laws of Delaware, with its principal place of business located at 5440 Park Place, Rosemont, Illinois 60018. The Big 10 is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference, and a formal “conference member” of Defendant NCAA’s Division I. In its 2011 IRS Form 990, the most recent one available for public inspection, the Big Ten identified itself as a tax-exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and stated that, for its fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, it obtained gross revenue of \$315,479,314. In its 2010 IRS Form 990, the Big Ten identified its mission as “to promote and regulate inter-collegiate athletic programs, encourage sound academic principles, and foster collegiality among our eleven member institutions, all of which are prestigious, non-profit educational institutions.”

60. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Big Ten’s members are the following twelve (12) institutions: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Indiana University, University of Iowa, University of Michigan, Michigan State University, University of Minnesota, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Northwestern University, Ohio State University, Pennsylvania State University, Purdue University, and University of Wisconsin-Madison. On July 1, 2014, the University of Maryland and Rutgers University will become members of the Big Ten Conference, bringing total membership to fourteen (14). All of the Big Ten’s football members are also members of the NCAA’s Division I, Football Bowl Subdivision. The Big Ten was an automatic qualifying conference for Bowl Championship Series purposes and is an acknowledged Power Conference. Further details regarding the Big Ten are provided herein.

61. Defendant Big Ten during the Class Period participated in the collusive restraint of trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby damaged Class Members, and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.

62. Defendant **The Big Twelve Conference, Inc. (“Big 12”)** is a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of Delaware, with its principal place of business located at 400 East John Carpenter Freeway, Irving, Texas 75062. The Big 12 is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference, and a formal “conference member” of Defendant NCAA’s Division I. In its 2011 IRS Form 990, the most recent one available for public inspection, the Big 12 stated that it was formed in 1996, is a tax-

1 exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and that, for
2 its fiscal year ending June 20, 2012, it obtained gross revenue of \$159,510,4398. The Big 12 further
3 stated in its IRS filing that its mission is to “organize, promote and administer intercollegiate
4 athletics among its member institutions” and to “optimize revenues and provide supporting service
5 sompatible [sic] with both academic and competitive excellence.”

6 63. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Big 12’s current members are the following
7 ten (10) institutions: Baylor University, Iowa State University, University of Kansas, Kansas State
8 University, University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, University of Texas at Austin,
9 Texas Christian University, Texas Tech University, and West Virginia University. All of the Big
10 12’s football members are also members of the NCAA’s Division I, Football Bowl Subdivision. The
11 Big 12 was an automatic qualifying conference for Bowl Championship Series purposes and is an
12 acknowledged Power Conference. Further details regarding the Big 12 are provided herein.

13 64. Defendant Big 12 during the Class Period participated in the collusive restraint of
14 trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby damaged Class Members,
15 and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.

16 65. Defendant **Southeastern Conference** is an unincorporated association, with its
17 principal place of business located at 2201 Richard Arrington Boulevard North, Birmingham, AL
18 35203-1103. The Southeastern Conference is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference, and a
19 formal “conference member” of Defendant NCAA’s Division I. In its 2011 IRS Form 990, the most
20 recent one available for public inspection, the Southeastern Conference identified itself as a tax-
21 exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and stated that,
22 for its fiscal year ending August 31, 2012, it obtained revenues of \$273,063,526. It further identified
23 its mission is to “promote and administer intercollegiate athletic competition among its 14 member
24 institutions located in the Southeastern United States.”

25 66. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Southeastern Conference’s current members
26 are the following fourteen (14) institutions: University of Florida, University of Georgia, University
27 of Kentucky, University of Missouri, University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee,
28 Vanderbilt University, University of Alabama, University of Arkansas, Auburn University,

1 Louisiana State University, University of Mississippi, Mississippi State University, and Texas A&M
 2 University. All of the Southeastern Conference's football members are also members of the
 3 NCAA's Division I, Football Bowl Subdivision. The Southeastern Conference was an automatic
 4 qualifying conference for Bowl Championship Series purposes and is an acknowledged Power
 5 Conference. Further details regarding the Southeastern Conference are provided herein.

6 67. Defendant Southeastern Conference during the Class Period participated in the
 7 collusive restraint of trade and other violations of law alleged in this Complaint, has thereby
 8 damaged Class Members, and will continue to damage Class Members unless enjoined.

9 68. Defendant **Atlantic Coast Conference** is an unincorporated association with its
 10 principal place of business located at 4512 Weybridge Lane, Greensboro, North Carolina 27407.
 11 The Atlantic Coast Conference is a multi-sport collegiate athletic conference and a formal
 12 "conference member" of Defendant NCAA's Division I. In its 2011 U.S. Internal Revenue Service
 13 ("IRS") Form 990, the most recent one available for public inspection, the Atlantic Coast Conference
 14 stated that it was formed in 1953, is a tax-exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the
 15 U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and that, for its fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, it obtained gross
 16 revenue of \$224,076,000. The Atlantic Coast Conference further stated in its IRS filing that it
 17 "exists to promote and regulate inter-collegiate athletic programs for and among twelve member
 18 institutions, all of which are non-profit educational institutions." It also identified itself as a
 19 corporation in that IRS filing, although elsewhere it has identified itself as an unincorporated non-
 20 profit association.

21 69. For the purpose of collegiate football, the Atlantic Coast Conference's current
 22 members are the following fourteen (14) institutions: Boston College, Clemson University, Duke
 23 University, Florida State University, Georgia Institute of Technology ("Georgia Tech"), University
 24 of Maryland, College Park ("Maryland"), University of Miami, University of North Carolina at
 25 Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University, University of Pittsburgh, Syracuse University,
 26 University of Virginia, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University ("Virginia Tech"), and
 27 Wake Forest University. On July 1, 2014, the University of Louisville will become an Atlantic
 28 Coast Conference member, and Maryland will depart the Atlantic Coast Conference to join the Big

Ten Conference. Also, as the Atlantic Coast Conference stated in its 2012-13 annual report, the University of Notre Dame “officially joined the ACC on July 1, 2013 ... Notre Dame will compete as a full member in all conference sponsored sports with the exception of football, which will play five games annually against league programs.” The Atlantic Coast Conference was an automatic qualifying conference for Bowl Championship Series purposes and is an acknowledged Power Conference. Further details regarding the Atlantic Coast Conference are provided herein.

70. Defendants Pac 12, Big Ten, Big 12, Southeastern Conference, and Atlantic Coast Conference are collectively referred to herein as the “Power Conference Defendants.”

71. Whenever in this Complaint Plaintiff makes reference to any act, deed, or transaction of a Defendant, the allegation means that the Defendant engaged in the act, deed, or transaction by or through its officers, directors, agents, employees, or representatives while they were actively engaged in the management, direction, control or transaction of the Defendant’s business or affairs.

C. Co-Conspirators

72. Various other persons, firms, corporations, and entities have participated as unnamed co-conspirators with Defendants in the violations and conspiracy alleged herein, including the NCAA’s Division I member schools and non-Defendant Division I conferences. In order to engage in the offenses charged and violations alleged herein, these co-conspirators have performed acts and made statements in furtherance of the antitrust violations and other violations alleged herein.

73. At all relevant times, each co-conspirator was an agent of Defendants and each of the remaining co-conspirators, and in doing the acts alleged herein, was acting within the course and scope of such agency. Defendants and each co-conspirator ratified and/or authorized the wrongful acts of Defendants and each of the other co-conspirators. Defendants and the co-conspirators, and each of them, are participants as aiders and abettors in the improper acts and transactions that are the subject of this action.

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

74. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question) and 28 U.S.C. § 1337 (commerce and antitrust regulation), as this action arises under Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1, and Sections 4 and 16 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C.

1 §§ 15(a) and 26. This Court also has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d),
2 because this is a class action in which the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of
3 \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and in which some members of the proposed Class are
4 citizens of a state different from any Defendant. This Court also has supplemental subject matter
5 jurisdiction with respect to the pendant state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

6 75. Venue is proper in this District because Defendants reside, are found, and have
7 agents, in this District as provided in 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c) and in Section 4 of the Clayton
8 Act, 15 U.S.C. § 15. A substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims
9 occurred in this District. The athletics grant-in-aid cap applies to college athletes who have
10 competed, or presently do compete, for NCAA member institutions in this District, the NCAA
11 sanctions Division I athletics events that regularly take place in this District, including regular season
12 football games played by local schools and post-season events such as football bowl games, and
13 Plaintiff and numerous members of the proposed Class reside in this District.

14 76. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because, *inter alia*, they:
15 (a) transact business throughout the United States, including in this District; (b) participate in
16 organizing intercollegiate athletic contests as well as licensing and selling merchandise and products,
17 including television events such as football bowl games, throughout the United States, including in
18 this District; (c) have substantial contacts within the United States, including in this District; and
19 (d) are engaged in an illegal anti-competitive scheme that was directed at, and had the intended effect
20 of causing injury to, persons residing in, located in, and/or doing business throughout the United
21 States, including in this District.

22 77. Additionally, NCAA Division I member schools are found within this District, such
23 as the University of California, Berkeley and Stanford University, both members of Defendant
24 Pac 12. Additionally located in this District are several schools that are members of co-conspirator
25 NCAA conferences, specifically, USF, St. Mary's, Santa Clara, and San Jose State. Moreover,
26 NCAA Power Conference and Defendant Pac 12 are headquartered within this District in Walnut
27 Creek, California.

78. In July 2011, rivals.com evaluated “the top 10 states that produced Bowl Championship Series signees over the past 10 years.” It ranked California third in the nation, and stated that “California’s large population is a key to its high number of Bowl Championship Series signees. California, Stanford, UCLA and USC don’t have to go very far to find high-quality players. The other schools in what was the Pac-10 (now Pac 12) have also feasted on California talent, as have programs such as Colorado and Notre Dame. This state has produced tons of top-level talent.” As alluded to, California’s population is the largest in the nation by a very wide-margin, and the recruiting patterns of the Power Conference Defendants’ members reflect that, as they continuously and systematically travel and communicate into California to recruit California football players.

79. Moreover, the NCAA conducted its Annual Convention in California this year. The NCAA, the Power Conference Defendants, and other NCAA members expressly debated and discussed the subject matter detailed in this Complaint, and reinforced and ratified their agreements to not presently allow NCAA members to exceed the grant-in-aid cap up to the Cost of Attendance, and to not allow NCAA members to exceed the Cost of Attendance.

80. **Intradistrict Assignment:** This action arises in Alameda County or San Francisco County because that is where a substantial part of the events that give rise to the claims occurred. Within Alameda County is found the University of California Berkeley (“Cal”) campus. Cal, for example, fields at least 27 intercollegiate sports teams, including a Football Bowl Subdivision men’s football team, both of which compete in the Pac 12. Current and former college football players on this team have been subjected to the violations described herein, and current college football players on this team are subject to the continuing violations described herein. Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 3-2(d), this action should be assigned to the San Francisco Division or to the Oakland Division.

IV. THE RELEVANT MARKET

81. The relevant market is the nationwide market for the labor of NCAA Division I college football players. In this labor market, current and prospective college students compete for roster spots on Division I football teams. NCAA Division I member institutions compete to obtain and retain the best Division I football players by paying in-kind benefits, namely, Division I football scholarships, access to academic programs, access to training facilities, and instruction from premier

1 coaches. In some cases, the capped compensation includes pay in cash, through the provision of a
2 housing and food allowance, but in all cases the amount of in-kind and cash compensation is strictly
3 capped by means of the conspiracy alleged herein.

4 82. NCAA Division I football is further divided into two subdivisions, Football Bowl
5 Subdivision and Football Championship Subdivision. These subdivisions constitute distinct
6 submarkets within the broader labor market for Division I football college players. Plaintiff only
7 seeks damages and injunctive relief with respect to the Football Bowl Subdivision submarket, in
8 which all of Power Conference Defendants' member teams compete. The Football Bowl
9 Subdivision Labor submarket is referred to herein as the "Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market."
10 The level of football played by those schools that acquire their athletes through the Football Bowl
11 Subdivision Labor Market is referred to herein as "Major College Football."

12 83. NCAA rules currently permit the award of 85 full scholarships for Football Bowl
13 Subdivision teams, and 63 full scholarships for Football Championship Subdivision teams (in the
14 later case, those scholarships may be spread over 85 athletes). Division I football programs compete
15 at the highest level of college football. They generate millions of dollars in revenue from revenue
16 streams including game attendance ticket revenue, TV contracts, corporate sponsorships,
17 merchandise sales and licensing, and alumni contributions.

18 84. The superior revenues generated by Division I football programs enable them to
19 provide superior coaching, playing and training facilities, and travel opportunities to football players.

20 **A. The Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market is Distinct**

21 85. The NCAA, the Power Conferences, their co-conspirator conferences (such as the
22 American Athletic Conference), and the colleges and universities that compete in Football Bowl
23 Subdivision conferences sanction and sponsor college football games. Those athletic contests
24 involve teams comprised of players who are also receiving the higher education services of the
25 colleges and universities for which they provide their athletic services. The football players that
26 compete in the Power Conferences, and thus within the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, are
27 elite athletes, the very best football players in the world in their age group. Those elite players have
28 no other options, other than in the Power Conferences, where they can compete against similarly

1 elite competition. Most such players are not eligible to compete as professionals in the National
2 Football League (“NFL”). The teams in that league are parties to a collective bargaining agreement
3 with the union that represents professional football players (the “NFLPA”). That agreement
4 prohibits a football player from joining the NFL until they have been out of high school for three (3)
5 years. Even as the number of athletes who have availed themselves of this option to enter the NFL
6 after three years has grown, it has yet to reach 100 athletes per year, leaving most athletes unable to
7 access any competitive labor offers until they complete at least 4 years of college under collusive
8 compensation restrictions.

9 86. This association of the products of Power Conference football with college students
10 competing as elite athletes is a unique feature that makes those products successful and distinguishes
11 those products from other sporting events and other entertainment alternatives. Because of the
12 distinct commercial appeal of the football played in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market,
13 the NCAA and the colleges and universities in the relevant market generate substantial revenues by
14 selling tickets to sporting events, selling broadcast rights to television and radio outlets, and related
15 licensing and concession activities.

16 87. The television broadcast revenues attributable to Football Bowl Subdivision teams
17 dwarf those attributable to Football Championship Subdivision teams, demonstrating the
18 marketplace’s recognition of the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market as a distinct submarket
19 where Football Bowl Subdivision schools participate in Major College Football

20 88. The Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market includes all of the colleges and
21 universities in the Football Bowl Subdivision, which the NCAA itself defines as the highest level of
22 competition in college football. This includes all colleges and universities that are members of the
23 Power Conference Defendants, as well as those schools they collude with through NCAA
24 agreements to fix the maximum price paid for the labor services of Football Bowl Subdivision
25 athletes. To compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, a college football program
26 must be a member of the NCAA’s Football Bowl Subdivision, and thus must meet game attendance
27 levels specified by the NCAA and must play nearly all of its games against other teams that compete
28

1 in that market. It also must agree to abide by the Football Bowl Subdivision's specific and Division
2 I's general rules mandating price fixing in the relevant market and its two submarkets.

3 89. From the standpoint of a prospective college football player, there is no reasonably
4 interchangeable substitute for the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market. Participating in Major
5 College Football provides prospective student-athletes the opportunity to compete at the highest level
6 of college football while earning a college degree, and also offers prospective college football
7 players a far greater prospect for advancement to a professional football career than is available
8 anywhere else. Because of the unique combination of athletic and academic benefits associated with
9 competing in the Major College Football offerings of the schools and conferences competing in the
10 Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, prospective college football players who have the
11 opportunity to participate in Football Bowl Subdivision programs very rarely choose to pursue any
12 alternatives to Football Bowl Subdivision.

13 90. Consistent with the status of the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market as a distinct
14 product market, each of the Power Conference Defendants markets its brand of football as a distinct
15 product. Thus, for example, Defendant Southeastern Conference creates a product called
16 Southeastern Conference Football that includes a full-season of Southeastern Conference football
17 competition (including a pre-season against other conferences) that culminates in the Southeastern
18 Conference Championship Game in Atlanta, Georgia. Southeastern Conference members then also
19 compete against other conference's members in post-season bowl games, and starting in 2014-15, in
20 a newly formed post-season playoff. Similarly, each of the other four Defendant conferences (as
21 well as the five non-Defendant co-conspirator Football Bowl Subdivision conferences) produce a
22 conference season of Major College Football. Defendant NCAA's expert in other litigation has also
23 testified to this effect:

24 It would be more accurate to say the NCAA is sponsoring sports
25 leagues. It's not the league itself.... The NCAA is a collaboration of
26 universities and conferences, and it sponsors and coordinates sports
leagues, so the league itself would be, you know, say one of the
collegiate leagues, like the Big Ten.

27 91. While these ten conferences serve as closer and more distance substitutes for each
28 other (with the Power Conferences having substantially more overlap among each other and also

higher market share among broadcasters and consumers), members of the live and television audiences for Major College Football do not view other football games, other sporting events, other entertainment options or any other product or category of products as an acceptable substitute for the Major College Football produced by participants in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.

B. Grants-in-Aid are Commercial Transactions

92. Despite the nonprofit status of NCAA member schools, the transactions those schools make with premier Division I football athletes – full “grants-in-aid” in exchange for athletic services – cannot be termed “noncommercial,” since schools make millions of dollars annually as a result of these transactions. In recent oral argument in the Northern District of California, the NCAA cited case precedent it acknowledged defines its activities as commercial.⁴ Thus, the transactions between NCAA schools and student-athletes are commercial in nature, and therefore take place in a relevant market with respect to the Sherman Act.

93. To field teams that can compete effectively on the field of play and generate increased revenues for their athletic programs, the colleges and universities that acquire talent in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market compete in marketing their services to the talented college athletes whose participation is necessary for the products to exist. As in all economic transactions, each party provides goods and services of benefit to the other party, on a number of dimensions. The dimensions in which this competition to recruit and retain student-athletes takes place includes the quality of the educational experiences provided to student-athletes, the quality of coaching services, the quality of training amenities, the quality of athletic and non-athletic opportunities following graduation, and the quality of the athletic competition on the field of play.

94. Of particular relevance to this case, the participants in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market also compete in offering student-athletes admission to their institutions and financial incentives to accept their offers of admission that take the form of grants-in-aid. A grant-in-aid can be provided purely in-kind (through tuition grants, room and board, and books), or in many cases in a mix of in-kind compensation and direct cash payments. These cash payments occur most commonly

⁴ See *O'Bannon* SJM Hearing Tr. at page 84.

1 when students choose to live off campus and so in place of room and board, schools simply give
2 each player a monthly check.

3 95. In exchange, athletes agree to compete for the school's football team, and their access
4 to both in-kind and cash compensation is conditional on participation – an athlete who voluntarily
5 leaves the team is not kicked out of school, but he is denied continued payment of a grant-in-aid for
6 the remaining years of his college attendance.

7 **C. The Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market Constitutes a Separate Market from**
8 **NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III, NAIA, and Community / Junior Colleges**

9 96. NCAA Division II football programs are not in the same market as Division I football
10 programs, especially those who compete for talent in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.
11 The total number of Division II scholarships is limited to 36. A typical NCAA college football
12 squad totals approximately 100 players. So, almost no Division II football athletes are awarded a full
13 scholarship. Division II football programs have smaller budgets, play close to home, and do not
14 generate excess revenue for the school as a whole. They provide lower quality facilities and
15 coaching, and limited (if any) opportunities to showcase an athlete's talent on national television.
16 There are few, if any, recorded instances of an athlete being offered the maximum allowed grant-in-
17 aid to play at a Division I school (whether Football Championship Subdivision or Football Bowl
18 Subdivision) choosing instead to accept a Division II scholarship.

19 97. NCAA Division III football programs are prohibited from awarding athletic
20 scholarships so they are not in the relevant market.

21 98. The NAIA is the largest of only a few other associations sponsoring four-year college
22 football. It is made up of smaller schools, and NAIA rules permit only 24 scholarships. So, almost
23 no player receives a full scholarship to play football. NAIA football programs are also not in the
24 relevant market. Nor are other college football sanctioning associations such as the National
25 Christian Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCCAA") or the United States Collegiate Athletic
26 Association ("USCAA").
27
28

1 99. Two-year junior colleges cannot award college degrees. Superior high school football
2 players do not choose to play at a junior college unless they are unable to meet NCAA academic
3 eligibility standards.

4 100. The differences between the NCAA divisions, and between the NCCAA and the
5 NAIA (and other minor associations), are demonstrated by a variety of additional factors. Total
6 football revenue is probably the most critical factor in differentiating the market. Total football
7 revenue for the 242 Division I schools in 2011 was well over \$3 billion, with the majority coming
8 from the 120 Football Bowl Subdivision schools (\$2,956,499,371). Total football revenue for the
9 122 Football Championship Subdivision schools was \$375,774,921 in 2011.

10 101. In contrast, total football revenue for the 157 Division II football schools was less
11 than half of the Football Championship Subdivision revenue (\$181,929,450). Football revenue for
12 all NAIA schools was \$83.6 million. For 2011, average football team revenue for Football Bowl
13 Subdivision schools was \$24.6 million. Average team revenue for Football Championship
14 Subdivision schools was \$3.1 million. Average football team revenue for Division II schools was
15 \$1.2 million. Average football revenue for NAIA schools was even less, approximately \$1 million.

16 102. The large differences in revenue between Division I schools and NAIA and
17 Division II schools are driven in part by the differences in total attendance. In 2012, Football Bowl
18 Subdivision schools had a total attendance of 37,170,235 fans; Football Championship Subdivision
19 schools had an attendance of 5,967,272 fans, and all 157 Division II football teams drew 3,006,297
20 fans. Total 2011 attendance figures for the 81 NAIA football schools were not available but the
21 number is insignificant when compared to NCAA Division I attendance figures, especially those for
22 Football Bowl Subdivision. As one such example, it has been reported that attendance at the NAIA
23 championship game in 2012 was 5,263. In contrast, the most recent Football Bowl Subdivision
24 championship game drew over 94,000 attendees.⁵

25 103. Average attendance figures also differentiate the relevant market. In 2012, Football
26 Bowl Subdivision schools averaged 45,440 per game. Football Championship Subdivision schools
27

28 ⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2012_NAIA_Football_National_Championship.

1 averaged 9,041 per game. Division II football averaged 3,520 per game. NAIA schools play in
2 much smaller stadiums. Marion University, a NAIA school, has a stadium with a maximum capacity
3 of 3,000. Several Division I football schools compete in stadiums with a capacity in excess of
4 100,000.

5 104. The differences between college football divisions in the quality of competition and
6 the level of institutional support cause superior high school football players to choose Division I
7 Football Bowl Subdivision schools and scholarships over other Division I, Division II, or NAIA
8 scholarships. For these players Division I, Division II and NAIA football is not a substitute for
9 Division I Football Bowl schools.

10 105. The intense recruitment of talented high school football players has led to the growth
11 of companies which scout and rate thousands of players. The most prominent company, rivals.com,
12 rates high school players on a 0 to 5 star scale. Of the 21,198 athletes tracked by rivals.com between
13 2007-2011 who received a Division I scholarship offer, 90% accepted. The vast majority of the
14 other 10% opted out of college football rather than accept a scholarship at a Division II or NAIA
15 school. Again, this indicates that Division II and/or NAIA football is not an adequate substitute.
16 The very fact that most NAIA and Division II athletes do not even rate a zero-star rating from Rivals
17 is evidence that they are of a far different caliber of quality than those in the Rivals database.

18 **D. There is Robust Competition Among NCAA Members in the Football Bowl Subdivision**
19 **Labor Market to Recruit and Retain College Football Players**

20 106. There is acutely intense competition among Division I schools to recruit and retain the
21 athletic services of college football players. This competition is most intense among the Power
22 Conference Defendants that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, but also exists
23 at the Football Championship Subdivision level. The colleges and universities in the relevant market
24 compete against one another to recruit and retain college athletes to participate in their athletic
25 programs through agreements under which the athletes commit to attend a particular college or
26 university in exchange for a GIA. The only reason that NCAA Division I schools do not engage in
27 price competition to recruit and retain those athletes is due to the fact the NCAA Bylaws at issue
28 prevent them from doing so.

1 107. NCAA members robustly compete for Class Members, though the price they pay
2 involves primarily in-kind benefits. For instance, colleges may compete to hire the coach that will be
3 best able to potentially launch players from the NCAA to the National Football League, an attractive
4 component for a prospective college football player. Colleges also engage in veritable arms races to
5 provide top-of-the-line training facilities which, in turn, are explicitly designed to attract and retain
6 collegiate football players. Many future collegiate football players also look to the strength of a
7 college's academic programs in deciding where to attend. These are all part of the competitive
8 market to attract college football players whose athletic labor can result in many benefits for a
9 college, including economic gain.

10 108. The NCAA prohibits its member institutions from simply paying student-athletes
11 salaries or even offering deferred trust-funds or other forms of payment. Instead, competition among
12 schools results in students with the desired athletic ability often receiving the maximum allowed (per
13 the restraint in suit) Division I football grants-in-aid. In effect, the student-athlete uses his or her
14 athletic abilities on behalf of the NCAA member institution in exchange for the cost of an athletic
15 and academic education, room, and board. NCAA member institutions pay for these goods and
16 services for student-athletes because student-athletes bring substantial collateral benefits to the
17 school in the form of: (a) enhanced publicity and recruiting, which increases overall tuition revenue;
18 (b) increased alumni donations; and (c) millions of dollars in gate receipts and licensing revenue and
19 if they were to offer less than the maximum allowed per the restraint, a rival school would make the
20 maximum offer and gain the benefits of that athlete's services instead.

21 **E. NCAA Members' Competition is Constrained by the Unlawful Grant-in-Aid Cap**

22 109. With one critical exception, the schools in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor
23 Market engage in virtually unfettered competition for athletes in numerous respects. However,
24 because all of the NCAA members competing in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market have
25 agreed to abide by the NCAA's grant-in-aid cap, the schools do not compete against one another
26 with respect to the amount of financial aid and other forms of direct compensation they provide to
27 college athletes. The NCAA and the colleges and universities in the relevant markets are able to
28 enforce that agreement because, from the standpoint of prospective student-athletes, there are no

1 acceptable substitutes for the Major College Football offered by Power Conference Defendants and
 2 their co-conspirators in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market. Absent the agreement not to
 3 compete on this dimension, Defendants' member schools and those of their co-conspirator
 4 conferences would compete vigorously to attract talent using increased financial aid and other direct
 5 forms of compensation, but having secured an agreement of 100% of the schools and conferences in
 6 the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, the NCAA and the conferences in the relevant market
 7 thus collectively wield market and monopoly power in the relevant market and are able to dictate the
 8 terms upon which the student-athletes who participate in Major College Football receive grants-in-
 9 aid.

10 110. The demand for college athletes is such that, absent the unlawful grant-in-aid cap, the
 11 colleges and universities in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market would have competed
 12 against one another by offering higher amounts of athletics-based financial aid to college athletes, up
 13 to and likely past the true Cost of Attendance. grants-in-aid are therefore "capped" by the artificial
 14 rules imposed by the NCAA at amounts lower than the amounts that would prevail in a truly
 15 competitive market. All or nearly all of the college athletes in the proposed Class receive the
 16 maximum grant-in-aid amount that the colleges and universities are permitted to give under the
 17 NCAA's rules and regulations. As detailed herein, the Commissioners of the five Power Conference
 18 Defendants have all publicly stated that, absent the NCAA restraint which they and their co-
 19 conspirators have collectively imposed upon the market, each Power Conference Defendant would
 20 allow and provide compensation in excess of the current cap.

21 111. As one such example, Defendant Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delaney, has argued in
 22 favor of providing Big Ten athletes with "a yearly stipend that would provide a set amount of extra
 23 money to cover the difference between the actual cost of attending a school versus what a full ride
 24 scholarship provides. He identified a fixed cost of anywhere from \$2000 to \$5000 per athlete."⁶
 25 Paragraphs 174-193 herein identify many more such statements from the Power Conference
 26 Defendants indicating their desire to use payments above the current grant-in-aid cap as a part of the

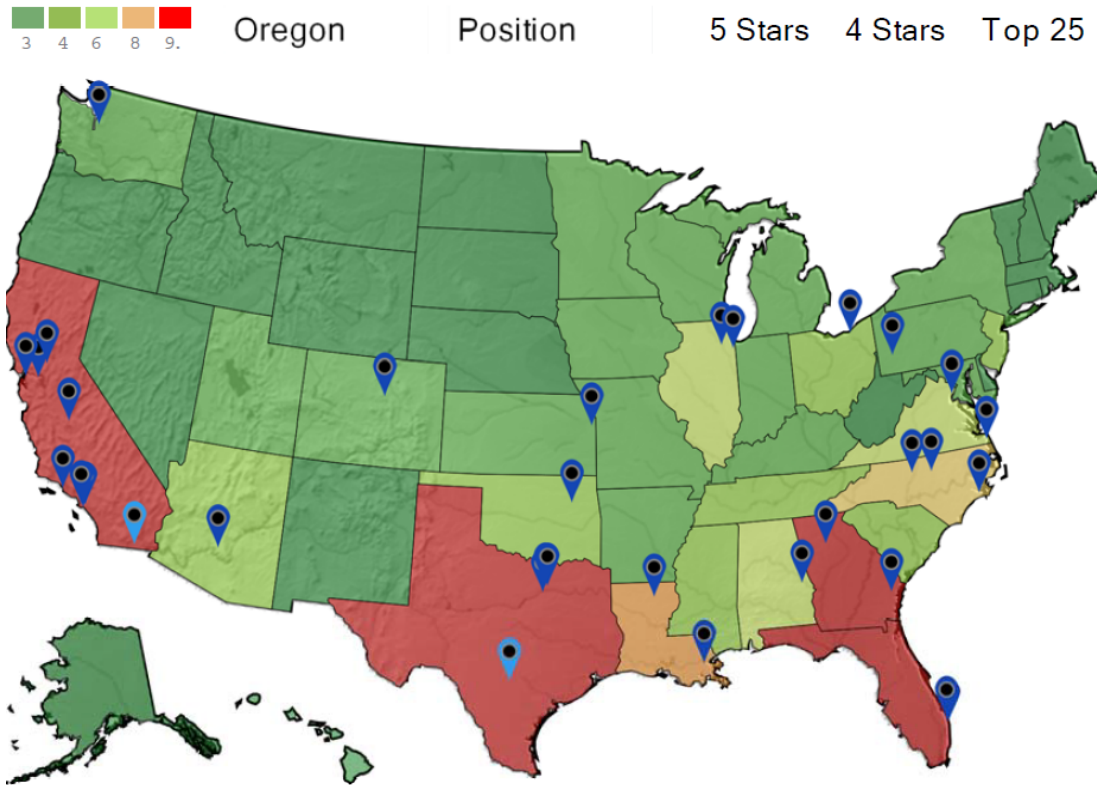
27 ⁶ <http://www.cornnation.com/2013/7/25/4556982/jim-delaney-and-the-ncaa-the-times-they-are-a-changin>.
 28

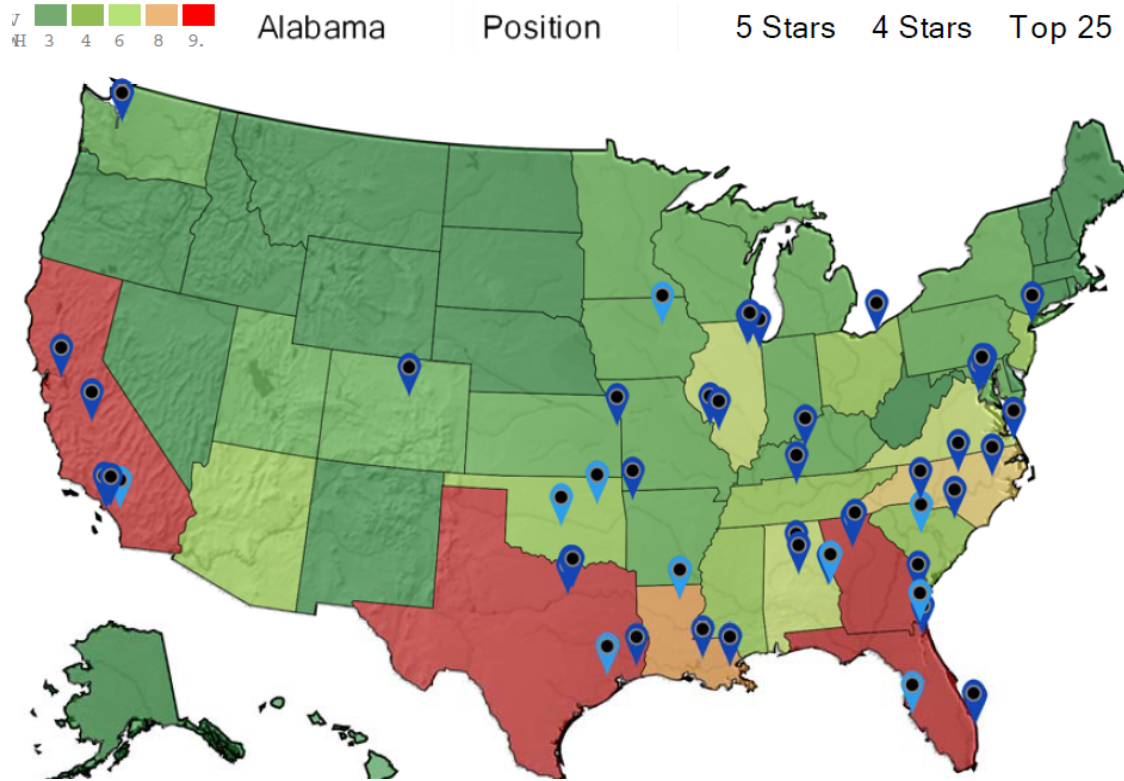
1 competition for recruits. Defendants' own public statements make clear that for the members of the
2 Class, increased competition on the terms of athletics-based financial aid upon the elimination of the
3 grant-in-aid cap would result in additional compensation, primarily in the form of increased athletics-
4 based financial aid for all members of the proposed Class.

5 **F. The Relevant Geographic Market**

6 112. The relevant geographic market is the United States. All Division I football teams are
7 located in the U.S. As a uniquely American sport, 99.9% of all Division I football players are from
8 the United States. Schools that participate in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market recruit
9 athletes throughout the nation, as is demonstrated in the recruiting maps published by the sports
10 website "The Bleacher Report." These maps, *available at*
11 [http://bleacherreport.com/articles/1659569-top-200-college-football-recruits-for-2014-interactive-](http://bleacherreport.com/articles/1659569-top-200-college-football-recruits-for-2014-interactive-map)
12 [map](http://bleacherreport.com/articles/1659569-top-200-college-football-recruits-for-2014-interactive-map), show that schools from states as distant as Alabama and Oregon clearly compete for talent on a
13 nationwide basis, with both programs focusing on the talent-rich state of California as well as
14 throughout the Southeast.

Oregon:



Alabama:**V. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS****A. An Overview of the NCAA****1. The NCAA's history.**

113. Former NCAA Executive Director Walter Byers, in his 1995 book, *Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Exploiting College Athletes*, wrote: “[t]he first intercollegiate competition in the United States was conceived and organized by students in the mid-1840s. By the turn of the century, eastern colleges were competing in some 19 sports. This all came about through student initiative and effort. The students set in place the underlying structure for college sports. Today, professional coaches, professional managers and money-minded presidents have total control. It is time to give back to the students who play sports the freedoms they deserve. At a minimum, they are entitled to freedoms enjoyed by their fellow students.”

114. The NCAA details its view of history on its website. It states that it “was founded in 1906 to protect young people from the dangerous and exploitive athletics practices of the time.”⁷ The NCAA continues that “[t]he rugged nature of early-day football, typified by mass formations and gang tackling, resulted in numerous injuries and deaths and prompted many college [sic] and universities to discontinue the sport. In many places, college football was run by student groups that often hired players and allowed them to compete as non-students. Common sentiment among the public was that college football should be reformed or abolished.” The NCAA continues that, “President Theodore Roosevelt summoned college athletics leaders to two White House conferences to encourage reforms. In early December 1905, Chancellor Henry M. MacCracken of New York University convened a meeting of 13 colleges and universities to initiate changes in football playing rules. At a subsequent meeting Dec. 28 in New York City, 62 higher-education institutions became charter members of the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of the United States (IAAUS). The IAAUS officially was constituted March 31, 1906, and took its present name, the NCAA, in 1910.”⁸

115. The NCAA states on its website that “[f]or several years, the NCAA was a discussion group and rules-making body, but in 1921 the first NCAA national championship was conducted: the National Collegiate Track and Field Championships. Gradually, more rules committees were formed and more championships were created, including a basketball championship in 1939.”

⁷ Notably, *The Washington Times* reported on December 24, 2013, that the NCAA stated in a court filing early that month, in response to a wrongful death lawsuit filed by a college football player’s family, that “[t]he NCAA denies that it has a legal duty to protect student-athletes.”

⁸ The NCAA annually awards a Theodore Roosevelt Award to an individual “for whom competitive athletics in college and attention to physical well-being thereafter have been important factors in a distinguished career of national significance and achievement.” There is considerable irony in the NCAA’s references to former President Theodore Roosevelt being instrumental in the formation of the NCAA, given his own abhorrence of trusts that violate the Sherman Act and the NCAA’s evolution into its present-day form including its status as an adjudged antitrust law violator and recidivist. *See, e.g.*, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/theodoreroosevelt> (“Roosevelt emerged spectacularly as a ‘trust buster’ by forcing the dissolution of a great railroad combination in the Northwest. Other antitrust suits under the Sherman Act followed.”). *See also* <http://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Learn-About-TR/Themes/Capitalism-and-Labor/The-Northern-Securities-Case.aspx> (“The Northern Securities Case (1904), which established President Theodore Roosevelt’s reputation as a ‘trust buster,’ reached the Supreme Court in 1904. It was the first example of Roosevelt’s use of anti-trust legislation to dismantle a monopoly, in this case a holding company controlling the principal railroad lines from Chicago to the Pacific Northwest.”).

116. The NCAA continues that “[a]s college athletics grew, the scope of the nation’s athletics programs diverged, forcing the NCAA to create a structure that recognized varying levels of emphasis. In 1973, the Association’s membership was divided into three legislative and competitive divisions – I, II and III. Five years later, Division I members voted to create subdivisions I-A and I-AA (renamed the Football Bowl Subdivision and the Football Championship Subdivision in 2007) in football.” The NCAA continues that it “began administering women’s athletics programs in 1980 when Divisions II and III established 10 championships for 1981-82. A year later, the historic 75th Convention adopted an extensive governance plan to include women’s athletics programs, services and representation. The delegates expanded the women’s championships program with the addition of 19 events, many of them Division I and National Collegiate (all division) championships.”

2. The NCAA’s basic structure.

117. The NCAA’s publicly-available documents confirm that it operates by way of horizontal agreements among its members. The NCAA, in its “Consolidated Financial Statements as of and for the Years Ended August 31, 2012 and 2011” (the “Financial Statements”), describes itself as an “unincorporated not-for-profit educational organization.” It further states that it “is the organization through which the colleges and universities of the nation speak and act on athletic matters at the national level.” The NCAA additionally states that it “is a voluntary association of more than 1,200 institutions, conferences, and organizations devoted to the sound administration of intercollegiate athletics in all its phases.” The NCAA further states that “[t]hrough the NCAA, its members consider any athletics issue that crosses regional or conference lines and is national in character.” The NCAA additionally states that it “serves as the colleges’ national athletics governing agency.”

118. The NCAA further states in its 2011 Internal Revenue Service Form 990 (“IRS Tax Return”) that its “active member institutions and voting conferences are the ultimate voice in all Association decisions.”

119. The NCAA states on its website that it “oversees 89 championships in 23 sports. There are more than 400,000 student-athletes competing in three divisions at over 1,000 colleges and universities within the NCAA.” The NCAA further states:

Each member school is able to choose a level of competition that best fits its mission. Competition is offered in Division I (the largest programs that provide the most athletically related financial aid for student-athletes), Division II (limited financial aid) and Division III (no athletically related financial aid).

There are 1,066 active member schools in the NCAA membership – 340 in Division I, 290 in Division II and 436 in Division III. The NCAA also contains 95 member conferences in all three divisions. Overall membership – counting schools, conferences and related associations – is 1,273.

Division I is subdivided based on football affiliation. A total of 120 schools are members of the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS). That subdivision is characterized by postseason play outside the NCAA structure and also by higher financial aid allocations. The second Division I subdivision is the Football Championship Subdivision, which contains 122 schools that participate in the NCAA's Division I Football Championship. The remaining 98 Division I schools do not sponsor football.

120. The NCAA, in Article 3.01 of its Constitution, states that "Division I offers three classes of membership: active, conference and affiliated."

121. NCAA Constitution Article 3.02.3, titled "Membership Categories," states:

3.02.3.1 Active Member. An active member is a four-year college or university that is accredited by the appropriate regional accrediting agency and duly elected to active membership under the provisions of this article (see Constitution 3.2.3). Active members have the right to compete in NCAA championships, to vote on legislation and other issues before the Association, and to enjoy other privileges of membership designated in the constitution and bylaws of the Association.

3.02.3.2 Member Conference. A member conference is a group of colleges and/or universities that conducts competition among its members and determines a conference champion in one or more sports (in which the NCAA conducts championships or for which it is responsible for providing playing rules for intercollegiate competition), duly elected to conference membership under the provisions of this article (see Constitution 3.3.3). A member conference is entitled to all of the privileges of active members except the right to compete in NCAA championships (see Constitution 3.3.2). Only those conferences that meet specific criteria as competitive and legislative bodies (see Constitution 3.02.1 and 3.02.2) and minimum standards related to size and division status are permitted to vote on legislation or other issues before the Association.

122. The NCAA states on its website that "[e]ach division creates its own rules governing personnel, amateurism, recruiting, eligibility, benefits, financial aid, and playing and practice

seasons – consistent with the overall governing principles of the Association. Every program must affiliate its core program with one of the three divisions.”

123. The NCAA further states this on its website:

Division I is subdivided based on a school’s football sponsorship. Schools that have football teams that participate in bowl games belong to the Football Bowl Subdivision. Those that participate in the NCAA-run football championship belong to the Football Championship Subdivision. Other schools don’t sponsor football at all.

Schools that belong to the Football Bowl Subdivision have different requirements from other schools. For example, they must sponsor a minimum of 16 varsity sports, including football. Other Division I schools must sponsor 14 sports. Additionally, Football Bowl Subdivision schools must meet stricter requirements for financial aid distribution and home football attendance than schools who classify in the FCS or Division I without football.

The subdivisions are based on football sponsorship only. All other sports are considered simply Division I.

3. The NCAA’s purpose.

124. The NCAA in its Financial Statement states that, “[a] basic purpose of the NCAA is to maintain intercollegiate athletics as an integral part of the educational program and the athlete as an integral part of the student body.”

125. In its 2011 IRS Tax Return, the NCAA states that “[t]he mission of the NCAA national offices is to conduct efficiently the business of the association as directed by the membership” The NCAA therein further states that, “[t]he NCAA’s purpose is to govern competition in a fair, safe, equitable and sportsmanlike manner and to integrate intercollegiate athletics into higher education so that the educational experience of the student-athlete is paramount.”

126. Article 1 of the NCAA’s Constitution states that the NCAA’s purposes include “(c) To encourage its members to adopt eligibility rules to comply with satisfactory standards of scholarship, sportsmanship and amateurism;” “(f) To supervise the conduct of, and to establish eligibility standards for, regional and national athletics events under the auspices of this Association;” “(h) To legislate, through bylaws or by resolutions of a Convention, upon any subject of general concern to the members related to the administration of intercollegiate athletics;” and

(i) To study in general all phases of competitive intercollegiate athletics and establish standards whereby the colleges and universities of the United States can maintain their athletics programs on a high level.”

4. The NCAA’s detailed governance structure.

127. The NCAA states in its Financial Statement that it “operates through a governance structure, which empowers each division to guide and enhance their ongoing division-specific activities.” It continues that, “[i]n Division I, the legislative system is based on conference representation and an eighteen member Board of Directors that approves legislation.” The NCAA continues that, “[t]he governance structure also includes an Executive Committee composed of sixteen chief executive officers (member institution chief executive officers) that oversee association-wide issues, which is charged with ensuring that each division operates consistently with the basic purposes, fundamental policies, and general principles of the NCAA.”

128. The NCAA further states that its “Executive Committee serves as the senior governing body of the NCAA.”

129. The NCAA further states this on its website: “**Division I Board of Directors** Eighteen members comprised of chief executive officers (CEOs). All 11 Football Bowl Subdivision conferences have a permanent seat. Seven Football Championship Subdivision and Division I conferences rotate seats.”⁹

5. The NCAA Manual.

130. The NCAA and its members govern themselves through the NCAA’s “Manuals,” promulgated yearly, with additional quarterly updates. The Manuals include, among other things, the NCAA’s “Constitution” and “Operating Bylaws.” Through the NCAA Constitution and Bylaws, the NCAA and its members have adopted regulations governing all aspects of both men’s and women’s college sports. The NCAA Constitution and Bylaws were adopted by votes of the member institutions and may be amended by votes of the member institutions. Thus, the rules set forth in the

⁹ Football Bowl Subdivision has since consolidated its 11 conferences into 10, with schools that played football in the WAC conference moving to other conferences or becoming independents.

1 NCAA Constitution and Bylaws constitute express, horizontal agreements among the NCAA and its
2 members.

3 131. NCAA Constitution Article 5.2.2 (“Bylaws”) states that “[e]ach division may adopt
4 legislation to be included in the operating bylaws of the Association, which provide rules and
5 regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of the constitution and which shall include, but not
6 be limited to, the following particulars: (a) The administration of intercollegiate athletics by
7 members of the Association; (b) The establishment and control of NCAA championships (games,
8 matches, meets and tournaments) and other athletics events sponsored or sanctioned by the
9 Association; (c) The procedures for administering and enforcing the provisions of the constitution
10 and bylaws; and (d) The adoption of rules of play and competition in the various sports, and the
11 delegation of authority in connection with such subjects to individuals, officers or committees.”

12 **6. The NCAA’s enforcement structure.**

13 132. Typically, antitrust cases involving allegations of a price-fixing cartel require
14 extensive discovery to demonstrate the presence of each element of an effective cartel. In the case of
15 the NCAA, the agreement, the punishment mechanisms, and the policing mechanisms are each laid
16 out in clear, publicly-available language.

17 133. The NCAA’s Constitution and Bylaws contain extensive provisions, constituting
18 express horizontal agreements among competitors, requiring NCAA members to abide by all
19 provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws, including the athletics grant-in-aid limitation at issue in
20 this Complaint. The Constitution and Bylaws further contain extensive provisions provided for
21 discipline of members that do not abide by the rules. The Constitution and Bylaws further provide
22 detailed monitoring provisions.

23 134. For example, NCAA Constitution Article 1.3.2, titled “Obligations of Member
24 Institutions,” states that “[l]egislation governing the conduct of intercollegiate athletics programs of
25 member institutions shall apply to basic athletics issues such as admissions, financial aid, eligibility
26 and recruiting. Member institutions shall be obligated to apply and enforce this legislation ...”
27 Article 2.8.1, titled “Responsibility of Institution,” found within Article 2.8, titled “The Principle of
28 Rules Compliance,” reiterates that “Each institution shall comply with all applicable rules and

1 regulations of the Association in the conduct of its intercollegiate athletics programs,” and that
2 “[m]embers of an institution’s staff, student-athletes, and other individuals and groups representing
3 the institution’s athletics interests shall comply with the applicable Association rules, and the
4 member institution shall be responsible for such compliance.” Article 3.1, titled “Eligibility for
5 Membership,” reinforces that “institutions or organizations must accept and observe the principles
6 set forth in the constitution and bylaws of the Association.” Constitution Article 3.2.1.2, titled
7 “Compliance with Association Rules,” states that “[t]he institution shall administer its athletics
8 programs in accordance with the constitution, bylaws and other legislation of the Association.”

9 135. Article 3.2.4, titled “Conditions and Obligations of Membership,” states that “[t]he
10 active members of this Association agree to administer their athletics programs in accordance with
11 the constitution, bylaws and other legislation of the Association.” Pursuant to Bylaw 18.4.2.1, each
12 year, by September 15th, each NCAA member must “[c]ertify, through its president or chancellor on
13 a form approved by the Legislative Council, the institution’s compliance with NCAA legislation.”

14 136. The NCAA’s Constitution and Bylaws contain numerous disciplinary provisions
15 detailing the dire consequences for any member that breaks the rules. The penalties can include
16 expulsion from the NCAA. NCAA Constitution Article 1.3.2 states that “the enforcement
17 procedures of the Association shall be applied to an institution when it fails to fulfill this obligation”
18 to apply and enforce NCAA legislation. Article 2.8.3, titled “Penalty for Noncompliance,” states
19 that “[a]n institution found to have violated the Association’s rules shall be subject to such
20 disciplinary and corrective actions as may be determined by the Association.” Article 3.2.5.1, titled
21 “Termination of Suspension,” states that “[t]he membership of any active member ... failing to meet
22 the conditions and obligations of membership may be suspended, terminated or otherwise
23 disciplined” Article 3.01.4 states that “[a]ll rights and privileges of a member shall cease
24 immediately upon termination or suspension of its membership.” Article 3.2.5.1.1, titled “Cessation
25 of Rights and Privileges,” states that “[a]ll rights and privileges of the member shall cease upon any
26 termination or suspension of active membership.”

27 137. The NCAA, in addition to regulating its members, directly regulates college athletes
28 themselves. For example, the NCAA Bylaw 14.1.3, for example, states that each year, a college

1 athlete “shall sign a statement in a form prescribed by the Legislative Council ... related to ...
2 eligibility ... financial aid, amateur status ... [f]ailure to complete and sign the statement shall result
3 in the student-athlete’s ineligibility for participation in all intercollegiate competition.” Bylaw
4 14.01.3 states that, to be eligible, “a student-athlete shall be in compliance with all applicable
5 provisions of the constitution and bylaws of the Association” Bylaw 14.1.1 states that, “[t]o be
6 eligible for regular-season competition, NCAA championships, and for postseason football games,
7 the student-athlete shall meet all general eligibility requirements.” Constitution Article 3.2.4.3 states
8 that, “[t]he institution shall be obligated immediately to apply all applicable rules and withhold
9 ineligible student-athletes from all intercollegiate competition.” In other words, the NCAA
10 mandates a collective boycott by all members of any athlete found to have deviated from the price-
11 fixing activity alleged in this Complaint.

12 138. To reinforce its rules, the NCAA goes even further. For example, Constitution Article
13 3.2.4.11, titled “Discipline of Members,” states that, “active members shall refrain from athletics
14 competition with designated institutions as required under the provisions of the Association’s
15 enforcement procedures.” In other words, the NCAA mandates a collective boycott by all members
16 of any school found to have deviated from the price-fixing activity alleged in this Complaint.

17 139. NCAA member conferences further enforce NCAA rules. For example, NCAA
18 member the Pac 12 Conference, headquartered in this District, in Walnut Creek, CA, in its “2013-14
19 Handbook,” states in its “Statement of Purpose” that “[t]he Conference is formed for the following
20 purposes: a. To provide its members with a jointly governed body for sponsoring, supervising and
21 regulating intercollegiate athletics as a conference member of the National Collegiate Athletics
22 Association (“NCAA”) in accordance with the principles, policies, constitution and bylaws of the
23 NCAA ...” The Pac 12 continues that “[t]he members of the Conference value: ... Compliance with
24 Conference and NCAA rules.” The Pac 12 continues that “[t]he Conference may place a member on
25 probation or suspension, or terminate its membership, by vote of at least three-fourths of all the
26 members of the CEO Group eligible to vote on the matter, for one or more of the following
27 reasons: ... Violating rules and regulations of the NCAA, or becoming ineligible for active
28 membership in Division I of the NCAA, by a written determination of the NCAA; ... Such

1 disciplinary action may also include the assessment of financial penalties.” The Pac 12 continues
2 that “[t]he Conference is a member of the NCAA, therefore, all member institutions are bound by
3 NCAA rules and regulations unless the Conference rules are more demanding.” The Pac 12
4 continues that “[t]he rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association shall govern all matters
5 concerning financial aid to student-athletes except to the extent that such rules are modified by the
6 CEO Group.” The Pac 12 continues that “The rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association
7 shall govern all matters of student-athlete eligibility except to the extent that such rules are modified
8 for practice and competition in Conference sports by regulations adopted by the CEO Group.”

9 140. As a practical matter, any academic institution that sponsors a men’s football program
10 in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market must maintain membership in the NCAA and abide
11 by the rules and regulations promulgated by the NCAA and its members, including the NCAA
12 Constitution, Bylaws, Executive Regulations and Official Interpretations. All colleges and
13 universities that participate in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market are NCAA members;
14 have conferred upon the NCAA the right to sanction and approve games including bowl games; have
15 agreed to restrictions under which they are forbidden from competing on the field against non-
16 NCAA teams; and have agreed to abide by all of the NCAA’s rules and regulations. There is no
17 practical alternative to NCAA membership for any academic institution that wishes to sponsor a
18 Major College Football program. There is no Major College Football program in the United States
19 that is not an NCAA member, abiding by the NCAA rules.

20 141. As a result of the NCAA rules embodied in the grant-in-aid cap, no NCAA member
21 school has provided any college athlete with athletics-based financial aid in excess of the grant-in-aid
22 cap, other than a few noted “scandals” in which the NCAA imposed punishments on schools for
23 exceeding the cap through the provision of “under-the-table” benefits.

24 142. The academic institutions in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market
25 aggressively compete against one another on the field of play, in recruiting college athletes, in
26 seeking to recruit and retain talented coaching staffs, in building athletic facilities that will attract
27 athletes and coaches and in soliciting revenues from television, radio and corporate sponsors. Absent
28

1 the unlawful grant-in-aid cap, the same competitive forces would result in more valuable grants-in-
2 aid and other forms of direct compensation.

3 **B. The NCAA Bylaw Challenged in this Litigation**

4 143. The Plaintiff in this litigation specifically challenges NCAA Bylaw 15.1, titled
5 “Maximum Limit on Financial Aid – Individual,” which states in pertinent part the following: “A
6 student-athlete may receive institutional financial aid based on athletics ability (per Bylaw 15.02.4.1)
7 and educational expenses awarded per Bylaw 15.2.6.4 up to the value of a full grant-in-aid ...”
8 Bylaw 15.02.5, titled “Full Grant-in-Aid,” states that “A full grant-in-aid is financial aid that consists
9 of tuition and fees, room and board, and required course-related books.”

10 144. Other NCAA Bylaws reinforce the prohibition. Bylaw 12.01.1 states that “[o]nly an
11 amateur student-athlete is eligible for intercollegiate athletics participation in a particular sport.”
12 Bylaw 12.1.2 states that “[a]n individual loses amateur status and thus shall not be eligible for
13 intercollegiate competition in a particular sport if the individual: Uses his or her athletics skill
14 (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form in that sport” Bylaw 12.02.7 states that “[p]ay is the
15 receipt of funds, awards or benefits not permitted by the governing legislation of the Association for
16 participation in athletics.” Bylaw 12.01.4, titled “Permissible Grant-in-Aid,” states that “[a] grant-in-
17 aid administered by an educational institution is not considered to be pay or the promise of pay for
18 athletics skill, provided it does not exceed the financial aid limitations set by the Association’s
19 membership.” Bylaw 12.1.2.1, titled “Prohibited Forms of Pay,” states that “[p]ay, as used in
20 Bylaw 12.1.2 above, includes, but is not limited to the following: ... Educational expenses not
21 permitted by the governing legislation of this Association (see Bylaw 15 regarding permissible
22 financial aid to enrolled student-athletes).” Bylaw 15.01.2 states that “[a]ny student-athlete who
23 receives financial aid other than that permitted by the Association shall not be eligible for
24 intercollegiate athletics.”

25 145. Under the grant-in-aid cap, which is set forth in Division I Bylaw 15.02.5, a “Full
26 Grant-In Aid” to a college athlete is defined as “financial aid that consists of tuition and fees, room
27 and board, and required course-related books.” The grant-in-aid for each member institution is thus
28 expressly restricted to cover an amount less than the full Cost of Attendance at any member

1 institution, because the Cost of Attendance is separately and more broadly defined by NCAA
2 Division I Bylaw 15.02.2 to be “an amount calculated by an institutional financial aid office, using
3 federal regulations, that includes the total cost of tuition and fees, room and board, books and
4 supplies, transportation, and other expenses related to attendance at the institution.” It is also
5 expressly restricted below the level that would prevail in a market free of anti-competitive collusion,
6 as is made clear by the statements of the Power Conference Defendants, their member schools, and
7 their co-conspirators and co-conspirator’s member schools. As described below, absent collusion
8 regarding GIA’s, the Power Conference Defendants would raise the amount they offer to athletes in
9 the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market above the current maximum allowed GIA.

10 146. NCAA Bylaw 15.02.2.1, titled “Calculation of Cost of Attendance,” further states that
11 “An institution must calculate the Cost of Attendance for student-athletes in accordance with the
12 cost-of-attendance policies and procedures that are used for students in general. Accordingly, if an
13 institution’s policy allows for students’ direct and indirect costs (*e.g.*, tuition, fees, room and board,
14 books, supplies, transportation, child care, cost related to a disability and miscellaneous personal
15 expenses) to be adjusted on an individual basis from the institution’s standard cost figure, it is
16 permissible to make the same adjustment for student-athletes, provided the adjustment is
17 documented and is available on an equitable basis to all students with similar circumstances who
18 request an adjustment.” Therefore, for every member of the proposed class, each university has
19 already calculated his Cost of Attendance figure, per NCAA requirements.

20 147. The NCAA enforces the agreed upon grant-in-aid cap through a further agreement
21 under which any college athlete who receives athletics-based financial aid in excess of the grant-in-
22 aid cap is ineligible to compete in NCAA sports. NCAA members have set up elaborate and
23 sophisticated mechanisms to monitor compliance and penalize violations of the horizontal restraints
24 on trade. Among other things, the NCAA requires members to report each college athlete’s financial
25 aid information to the NCAA on or before the first day of outside competition for the sport in which
26 the college athlete participates. This information is compiled onto a form known as a “Squad List”
27 and each Power Conference Defendants’ member school maintains control of this document. The
28 NCAA makes available to its members, at no charge, compliance software that applies NCAA

1 regulations to college athletes' information, generates reports to the NCAA and warns the member
2 when the jointly imposed limit on a college athlete's financial aid has been exceeded. Violations are
3 adjudicated and penalties imposed by competing member institutions.

4 148. Any Division I member that deviates from the NCAA rules limiting the amount, terms
5 and conditions of financial aid to college athletes is subject to severe sanctions, including expulsion,
6 under NCAA rules. These punishments have included a complete ban on football participation (the
7 "death penalty") as well as a reduction in the number of grants-in-aid a school can offer. The very
8 fact that a reduction in the number of grants-in-aid is seen as a severe punishment is a clear sign as to
9 how valuable even the last scholarship athlete on a team is.

10 149. Moreover, because NCAA rules prohibit members from playing games with non-
11 NCAA members, an expelled member would be unable to continue participating in major college
12 sports. Because sports businesses, like college football teams, require opponents to provide a game
13 for its consumers, and require multiple opponents to form a league season of football that culminates
14 in a league championship, an organized, collective boycott of all other participants in Major College
15 Football constitutes a tremendous barrier to any one team (or even a small handful of teams)
16 succeeding in forming a rival league if boycotted by all NCAA members. Thus, the NCAA's price-
17 fixing regime is designed with strict enforcement built in that prevents a fracturing of the cartel.

18 150. As a result, in practice, Division I schools do not deviate from the rules limiting the
19 amount, terms and conditions of financial aid to college athletes other than the exceptional case of
20 what the NCAA refers to as "cheating" such as providing excessively luxurious accommodations
21 (Reggie Bush) or too many text books (Nebraska).

22 151. For many years, the grant-in-aid cap has restricted the amount of athletics-based
23 financial aid available to college athletes in NCAA Division I, and it continues to do so to this day.
24 As the NCAA itself writes "[a]n 'incidental allowance' of \$15 per month was once justified as an
25 educational expense that was tied to Cost of Attendance, but was eliminated from the NCAA grant-
26 in-aid definition in the 1970s." This statement refers to the anti-competitive decision in 1976 to take
27 an already collusive limitation on compensation to athletes and further reduce it through a collusive
28 decision to remove certain elements of the then-permitted GIA. While in 1975-76, the NCAA

1 allowed its members to provide direct compensation up to the value of "... commonly accepted
2 educational expenses (i.e., tuition and fees; room and board; required course-related supplies and
3 books, and incidental expenses not in excess of fifteen dollars per month) ...," as of 1976-77, that
4 limit was lowered to include only "... commonly accepted educational expenses (i.e., tuition and
5 fees, room and board and required course-related books) ..." Thus, since 1976-77, through the
6 artificial limitations on financial aid embodied in the grant-in-aid cap, the NCAA and its members
7 have agreed among themselves not to include in financial aid such costs as school supplies,
8 recommended text books, laundry expenses, travel costs and incidental expenses. (In addition, a cap
9 prohibiting the provision of health and disability insurance existed until eliminated via a legal
10 settlement in 2008.)

11 152. Without the grant-in-aid cap, the colleges and universities that sponsor Major College
12 Football and compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market would provide athletic
13 scholarships in an amount in line with the college athlete's value in a competitive market. The same
14 competitive forces that drive schools to provide coaches with million dollar salaries and build lavish
15 athletic facilities would also compel those schools to provide athletics-based grants-in-aid at a truly
16 competitive level. Indeed, the athletic directors of the University of Texas acknowledged this in a
17 2013 Declaration in other litigation in this District, when they declared that "[i]ntroduction of that
18 kind of commercial recruiting competition for and between student-athletes would heavily impact
19 recruiting throughout NCAA institutions, including Division I. At least some student-athletes would
20 likely gravitate toward schools that would 'pay' them the most amount of money...." The grant-in-
21 aid cap thus enables the NCAA, its member colleges and universities, and the coaches to reap all of
22 the financial benefits of big-time college sports, while depriving Class Members of millions of
23 dollars in athletics-based financial aid.

24 153. Through the grant-in-aid cap, the NCAA and its members have thus contracted,
25 combined and conspired to fix, depress or stabilize the amount, terms and conditions of athletics-
26 based financial assistance to Class Members in the relevant market.

27 154. The grant-in-aid cap has been successful and effective. As a result of the grant-in-aid
28 cap, Class Members receive lower amounts of financial assistance and other direct compensation

1 than they would receive if Class Members were permitted to receive athletics-based financial aid
2 covering their costs of attendance.

3 155. Absent the horizontal restraint on competition imposed through the grant-in-aid cap,
4 competitive grant-in-aid offers would be an important means by which NCAA Division I members
5 would compete for and recruit Class Members, Class Members would receive more generous
6 scholarships as a result of competition among those schools. Defendants' collusive restraint on
7 grants-in-aid violates the United States' antitrust laws. The restraint's anti-competitive effects
8 substantially outweigh any alleged pro-competitive effects that Defendants may offer.

9 **1. Numerous reasonable and less restrictive alternatives exist.**

10 156. Numerous reasonable and less restrictive alternatives are available to Defendants'
11 current anti-competitive practices. For example, one less restrictive alternative may be to allow the
12 Power Conference Defendants to compete amongst each other as to the financial aid terms that
13 conference members will make available to college football players. *See, e.g.*, Jonathan Mahler,
14 Business Week, "College Athletes Should be Paid Exactly This Much," January 2, 2014 ("Once the
15 NCAA monopoly has been broken, the various conferences would be free to write rules for their
16 respective members. Some conferences might even experiment with salary caps and see how the
17 market reacts. As long as they weren't colluding to fix prices – as they are doing now – the market
18 would find an equilibrium."). Such incremental competition would allay the fears (even though
19 unfounded) of those that decry the repercussions of an instantaneous transition to a wide-open free
20 market, with every school making its own independent decisions.

21 157. The Power Conference Defendants already compete with each other in a myriad of
22 ways. Among the most obvious is their competition in the Coaching Labor Market to attract the best
23 coaches to help recruit athletes and to win games. In litigation captioned *Law v. NCAA*, the plaintiffs
24 challenged efforts similar to the grant-in-aid cap in suit that were undertaken to fix the price of
25 (basketball) coaching talent. In that case, after applying a quick look, the Court, and the Circuit
26 Court of Appeals, both found the NCAA's nationwide collusion of this labor market violated the
27 antitrust laws. Despite the NCAA's claim that such rules were necessary to the survival of college
28

1 sports, no such collapse has occurred. Instead, as Gary Barta, the Athletic Director of the University
2 of Iowa (a member of Defendant Big Ten Conference) recently explained on Iowa Public television:

3 “... we have to compete with the marketplace, and the marketplace says
4 ‘this is what a football coach makes, this is what a basketball coach
5 makes, this is what a tennis coach makes, and I’m expected to win, I’m
6 expected to graduate, and so I have to participate in that marketplace.
7 you see, and I’m happy to do so.”¹⁰

8 His counterpart at Iowa State, Jamie Pollard, explained how the need to attract students creates
9 demand for quality coaches:

10 “Well, I’ll break it down to a simple question. A student-athlete, when
11 they’re choosing which school to go to, chooses based on the facilities,
12 based on coaches, based on the academic institution. If Gary [Barta,
13 Iowa A.D.] or I took the opinion that we’re not going to pay the market
14 rate for [Iowa State football coach] Paul Rose or [Iowa football coach]
15 Kirk [Ferentz] that would impact some of those decisions those
16 student-athletes would make. So you know we could all sit and say
17 well, they’re overpaid or that’s a lot of money to be paid but it is the
18 marketplace. It is what it is.”¹¹

19 158. In the absence of the anti-competitive, collusive restraint detailed herein, the Power
20 Conference Defendants could be expected to compete along these same lines regarding the terms of
21 the financial aid that their member institutions offer to current and prospective college football
22 players. The Power Conference Defendants appear to be thriving. Each is run by smart business
23 executives capable of negotiating billion dollar television deals. Surely each of them can
24 independently determine a method to compete regarding grants-in-aid, while still preserving
25 consumer interest in Division I Football Bowl Subdivision football. Indeed, if each conference were
26 to determine in its own independent determination that by offering its athletes more than the Cost of
27 Attendance, it would lose fan interest and thus suffer a decline in revenue, nothing in an open market
28 would compel them to make such a business-losing payment offer. However, were the individual
conferences to collude before making that determination, this would constitute a continued violation
of the antitrust laws. Thus, such competition should not occur without judicial oversight. Plaintiff
therefore requests the appointment of an Antitrust Compliance Monitor, as detailed elsewhere herein,

¹⁰ https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=EewKGGIOxRE#t=68.

¹¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=EewKGGIOxRE#t=88.

1 to ensure that Defendants do not unlawfully impede competition among themselves even after the
2 NCAA is enjoined from enforcing the current price-fixing agreement.

3 159. Each conference has indicated that if left to design its own compensation plan, each
4 would increase the current levels by at least the difference between the current collusively-set grant-
5 in-aid maximum and the true Cost of Attendance. Ending collusion would widen consumer choice
6 as each Power Conference Defendant (as well as their co-conspirators) could choose the level of
7 payment that best balances its desire to attract the best talent with the perceived reaction of its
8 consumers (broadcasters, alumni, other students, fans). If a given conference felt that payment in
9 excess of this new Cost of Attendance level were in its best financial interest, it could make such an
10 offer. On the other hand, if a conference felt that such payments would be detrimental to overall
11 demand, then even absent a national collusive cap, that conference need not offer more, and would
12 live with the quality of team it could attract with a Cost of Attendance offer.

13 160. Defendants' conduct, therefore, artificially limits and narrows consumer choice, and
14 prevents new products from existing.

15 161. Defendant NCAA's expert, in other litigation, has also testified that lifting the current
16 cap would be pro-competitive as well: "For example, I have asked myself, suppose that the NCAA
17 were to define differently what is an appropriate payment that would cover student expenses and
18 tuition and to change that amount. It's a subject that has been under some debate, and I think there
19 are changes in the rules that could be made that would still achieve the pro-competitive purposes that
20 the NCAA has set out, but I have not seen my charge by the NCAA as advising them as to how to
21 change their regulations."

22 162. The ABA's "Antitrust" publication in 2000 focused on antitrust issues in sports,
23 including college sports. In that journal they published an analysis of the NCAA's price-fixing rules
24 and concluded that less restrictive alternatives, such as conference-based competition, exist:

25 [A] more viable alternative, that recognizes the necessity of
26 coordination among teams to create league sports, is to devolve power
27 from the NCAA to the various collegiate conferences. Conferences can
28 play the procompetitive joint venture role accepted by the courts in
their treatment of sports leagues, creating the necessary competitive
framework for the existence of the product. Each conference, then,
could choose a common wage regime, and within that conference, the

necessary balance for the creation of a team sport would be maintained, without the need for an overarching super-cartel to control the entire market for college-age athletes....¹²

163. Existent dimensions of competition among NCAA member conferences include competing: (1) on non-monetary terms to attract the best football players to their conferences; (2) to attract member institutions (a phenomenon known, as of late, by the term “conference realignment”); (3) to retain member institutions; (4) to provide desirable revenue sharing among member institutions (whether equal sharing, or unequal sharing); (5) to provide conference “stability”; (6) to attract favorable television broadcast revenues; (7) to provide conference-owned television networks; (8) to attract sponsorship monies; and (9) to retain the most qualified referees and officials.

164. More specifically, one aspect of competition among conferences involves competing on whether revenue will be shared equally among member schools, or according to other formulas featuring a component of non-equal sharing. For example, on September 21, 2011, ESPN.com reported that “[t]he Pac-12 decided it won’t expand further late Tuesday because commissioner Larry Scott failed to get assurance that Texas [a member of the Big 12 conference] would back an equal revenue sharing plan if the league added the Longhorns, [Big 12 conference members] Oklahoma, Texas Tech and Oklahoma State, a source with direct knowledge told ESPN.com.”

165. In 2013, a member of the Atlantic Coast Conference, the University of Maryland, College Park (“Maryland”), initiated litigation against the Atlantic Coast Conference, triggered by issues relating to when, on “November 19, 2012, Maryland publicly announced its intention to [leave the Atlantic Coast Conference and] join the Big Ten Conference beginning on July 1, 2014.” Maryland’s complaint is notable for, among other things, detailing the competition among conferences as follows:

Competition is not limited to members of the same conference, who compete both on and off the field. Each conference, as a joint venture of the university members, competes in many ways with other conferences (typically joint ventures among a separate and distinct set of other universities). Conferences (or associations of member schools) compete for member schools, sales of tickets, sale of broadcasting rights, advertising and sponsorships, and opportunities for

¹² Rascher, Daniel A. and Andrew D. Schwarz, “Neither Reasonable nor Necessary: ‘Amateurism’ in Big-Time College Sports,” *Antitrust*, Spring 2000, pp. 51-56.

their members to compete in lucrative athletic contests, such as the Bowl Championship Series in football and the NCAA men's and women's basketball tournaments.

There exists a market in which intercollegiate athletic conferences compete for member institutions. Conferences often leverage broadcasting revenues to enhance the attractiveness of their athletic associations to prospective members. Various conferences have recruited and added member institutions to create or maintain appealing rivalries and enhanced competition, in order to increase fan interest, broadcasting ratings, and sponsorship appeal, with the goals of improving the product offerings of the conference, increasing revenues to the conference and its members, and enhancing its members' reputations and brands.

166. Competition among NCAA member conferences to attract new member institutions has been very well-documented. *The New York Times*, in an article dated November 30, 2013, titled "Tracing the History of N.C.A.A. Conferences," reported that "[a] frenzy of realignment has transformed college athletics: about one in four major football programs has switched conferences since 2010. The effects are only starting to play out as programs build new infrastructure to televise and market their programs, especially in up-and-coming conferences. As conferences have become essential to stay competitive, the number of unaffiliated major schools has declined sharply." *The New York Times* provides a detailed, interactive chart, documenting conference switching among "[m]ajor college football programs since 1965" at this Internet website: <http://www.nytimes.com/newsgraphics/2013/11/30/football-conferences/> (last visited February 5, 2014).

167. Maryland's complaint against Defendant Atlantic Coast Conference provides additional information on conference realignment and competition:

Changes in the alignment of colleges and universities within athletic conferences have occurred with increased frequency in recent years. Within 2012 alone, major revisions in membership occurred or were announced not only with respect to the ACC, but also in other collegiate athletic conferences.

The rapid conference realignment that has occurred in recent years (and that is likely to continue, absent unreasonable restraints on competition) has enabled institutions of higher learning to enhance the academic, athletic, and research opportunities available to their students, student-athletes, and faculty through both increased revenues and enhanced visibility and reputational benefits.

Conference realignment is a method by which an academic institution can enhance its reputation and brand and its ability to attract student-athletes, students, faculty, and coaches. Realignment also presents an opportunity for universities to join conferences with universities with common attributes and missions.

Conference realignment creates conferences that are more appealing to intercollegiate athletics fans, which results in greater competition and greater benefits to consumers from the products offered by those conferences. Realignment of conferences creates the opportunity to attract to conference athletic events fans and consumers who are otherwise not following intercollegiate athletics.

Both historically and recently, the ACC has been an active participant in the market to recruit universities to become athletic conference members by aggressively pursuing and adding members. The ACC was founded in 1953 by seven universities that all left the Southern Conference. Shortly thereafter, the University of Virginia also withdrew from the Southern Conference to join the ACC. In 1971, the University of South Carolina withdrew from the ACC and later joined the Southeastern Conference. Thereafter, Georgia Tech, once part of the Southeastern Conference and a charter member of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association, joined the ACC. In 1991, the ACC extended membership to Florida State, a charter member of the Dixie Conference and former member of the Metropolitan Collegiate Athletic Conference.

The ACC's membership remained the same until approximately 2004, when the ACC initiated the most recent trend of conference realignment. That year, the University of Miami and Virginia Tech left the Big East Conference to join the ACC. One year later, Boston College followed.

Recently, the ACC has been extremely active in the market for new conference members. In 2012, Syracuse University and the University of Pittsburgh announced that they will withdraw from the Big East Conference and join the ACC in 2013. On September 12, 2012, the ACC announced that the University of Notre Dame will join the conference by 2015 for all conference-sponsored sports except football (although Notre Dame has agreed to play five ACC football teams each season). Most recently, on November 28, 2012, ACC presidents and chancellors voted to admit the University of Louisville (in a meeting from which Maryland was improperly and illegally excluded). Louisville is scheduled to leave the Big East and become an ACC member in 2014.

168. Conferences and their members compete on the strength of the conference's brand, including to recruit college football players. For example, on February 6, 2013, *Yahoo! Sports* reported:

"Kids want to play in the SEC," [new Kentucky football coach Mark] Stoops told *Yahoo! Sports* Wednesday morning. "It's important, we

1 have a great program, a great school in a great location and we play in
the best conference in America.” ...

2 “SEC membership isn’t the ultimate trump card, but it’s a pretty good
3 one,” said Rivals.com national recruiting expert Mike Farrell. “The
4 SEC is a great selling point. A lot of kids choose the SEC not just
because they have the best chance to win a national title, but to play
against a better caliber of competition.” ...

5 While it is nothing new for SEC programs landing coveted recruits –
6 predictably, Alabama, Florida and LSU were all ranked in the top
7 five – the depth of the dominance is something new.... That’s the
8 power of the league brand. Fans of rival conferences can be excused
for getting sick of the “SEC, SEC” chant and the fawning media
coverage that follows. But just imagine how their coaches feel hearing
it on the recruiting trail.... “These schools have even proven they can
9 go out of the region and bring kids to the SEC,” Farrell said. “That’s
new.” ...

10 Again, it’s one thing for Alabama or Florida to recruit nationally. But
11 everyone? Ole Miss landed wide receiver (Laquon Treadwell) from
12 Illinois. Auburn got defensive end (Tashawn Bower) out of New
Jersey and defensive end (Elijah Daniel) from suburban Indianapolis.
South Carolina went to Philadelphia for running back David Williams.
13 And Kentucky picked up defensive back Marcus McWilson out of
Youngstown, Ohio.

14 Rival fans can complain about SEC bias, SEC hype, even SEC over-
15 signing. No one is arguing against that. This is what National Signing
Day is, however, and this is what the system has delivered.

16 A world where one conference’s high tide has lifted all boats, even in,
17 of all places, the long-lowly, just-waiting-for-basketball-season Big
Blue of Kentucky.

18 169. On July 27, 2010, *Sports Illustrated* reported, regarding the Pac 12, the following:

19 “I don’t think it’s far-fetched to think that five years from now, you’ll
20 see Pac-10 teams competing in Asia, hosting teams over here, and the
brand of the Pac-10 starting to built over there and exposed on TV,”
21 [Pac-12 Commissioner Larry] Scott said. “That’s going to provide
some great opportunity for student-athletes.” He also hopes it might
22 pave the way for more academic collaboration between Pac-10 schools
and Asian universities.

23 A “logical byproduct,” Scott said, is the potential to eventually recruit
24 athletes from Asia.

25 170. Conferences compete to attract other personnel, not merely college football players.

26 For example, *USA Today*, on March 12, 2009, reported that the John W. Adams, the NCAA’s
27 coordinator of men’s basketball officiating, stated that “[t]here’s competition (among conferences)

1 for the best officials on certain days. They're independent contractors, and many of them do it for a
2 living."

3 171. In July 2010, *Sports Illustrated* reported the following comments from the now-
4 NCAA President Mark Emmert, who was then the President of Pac 12 member the University of
5 Washington:

6 "The Pac-10 has always had a very good reputation," said Washington
7 president Mark Emmert, who will take over as NCAA president on
8 Nov. 1. "The brand has always stood for academic quality and
9 integrity. We certainly wanted to keep all that in place because it's
10 essential and central to who we are. But it also had a bit of a stodgy, a
11 little bit self satisfied image that we wanted to change.

12 We wanted to demonstrate that out west, people are engaged in
13 innovation and creativity. We are the home of Microsoft and Google,
14 and we do build airplanes. We do all sorts of exciting and dynamic
15 things out west. ... Yet the conference wasn't really a reflection of that
16 energy."

17 172. President Emmert's remarks surely could find application in regards to determining a
18 viable, less restrictive alternative to the restraint challenged herein. Of interest, given President
19 Emmert's reference to Google, are the following September 2012 remarks of Google's Chief Legal
20 Officer, David C. Drummond, himself a former college football player:

21 The problem with college sports is not too much money; it's the lack
22 of basic self-awareness. Even if you believe that amateurism was at
23 one time a reasonable and attainable ideal. That time has obviously
24 passed. Compensating athletes is clearly part of the answer, but it's
25 not the whole answer; what college sports need now is a redesign. And
26 that redesign will have many important details. But what's clear is that
27 Version 2.0 of the college sports business will need to recognize that
28 it's an American business and behave accordingly. Some would say
that this is an incredibly tall order, perhaps too tall. Fair enough. But
to the reformers in the room, I would urge you to consider a saying we
really like at Google: sometimes really good things come from having
a healthy disregard for the impossible.

173. Drummond offered his own solution, one that could thrive in the less restrictive
alternative of conference competition outlined above. Drummond explained:

The first norm that technology transfer managers knew they should
respect was the one that says that people who contribute to a
commercial endeavor should be compensated in a way that is at least
rationally related to their contribution. At Stanford, the policy for
licensed inventions calls for one-third of the royalties to go to the
inventor, one-third to the inventors' department, and one-third to the
inventors' school. Where the school accepts start-up equity in lieu of

cash royalties, it is typically a very small percentage, in the case of Google, about 2%. This means that the founders of Google were able to reap the benefits of their hard work and ingenuity, even though they were still students at Stanford.

Under this less restrictive alternative, not every school or conference would be required to adopt the Stanford system, or any specific model. But it would be open to them as a choice, with respect to how best to compete for talent in the Football Bowl Subdivision and how best to offer its downstream consumers a choice when it sells its products of conference football in competition with other conferences' offerings. Under the current system of collusion and mandate, no school is able to widen choice by offering alternative models to the NCAA's collusive, we-know-better-than-the-market restriction on competition and choice.

C. The NCAA's Public Statements Regarding the Pro-competitive Nature of the Proposed Stipend and Absence of Pro-competitive Justifications for Capping Compensation at Current Levels

174. The NCAA has made a litany of public comments seemingly supporting the concept of a stipend. Each one seems potentially promising in a vacuum, until one realizes they got back to at least as early as 2003 (leaving aside that these stipends were provided prior to 1976-77 and only stopped by action of the NCAA), with little change ever following the statements.

1. 2014 Statements.

175. In January 2014, NCAA Division I Board of Directors Chairman Nathan Hatch, also the President of NCAA Division I member Wake Forest University, circulated a letter to NCAA members regarding a "template prepared by the Division I Board of Directors' Steering Committee on Governance that is intended to aid participants during the January 16 and 17 Division I Dialogue in San Diego." The "template" includes a "Proposed Legislative Structure" regarding "Legislative Autonomy" that is "[d]efined as the ability, within the current NCAA structure, for the SEC, B1G [sic, i.e. the Big Ten], PAC-12, Atlantic Coast Conference and Big 12 conferences and their institutions to adopt reforms in a regulatory structure that respects the demands on student-athletes in the 21st century and acknowledges the need for these conferences / institutions to define rules that address their unique challenges."

1 176. The document continues that one of the “Proposed Areas of Autonomy” is to
2 “[d]efine a full grant-in-aid as meeting a student-athlete’s cost of attendance in a manner consistent
3 with the core values of the collegiate model and not to exceed total cost of attendance.”

4 177. On January 13, 2014, the *Associated Press* reported that “NCAA President Mark
5 Emmert said Monday that providing a stipend to student-athletes seems less threatening to the
6 schools that earlier knocked down a proposal to increase the value of a scholarship to cover the full
7 cost of attendance. ‘It seems to be a much less controversial notion today than it was 18 months
8 ago,’ Emmert said of the stipend proposal. ‘As we’ve talked about it more and the membership has
9 had a chance to digest it, it’s being seen as less threatening.’”

10 **2. 2013 Statements.**

11 178. On January 20, 2013, the *Associated Press* referenced President Emmert and reported
12 that “When talking about a needs-based proposal, Emmert used as an example his cousin who was a
13 volleyball MVP at [the University of] Washington. ‘I know my cousin’s circumstances and she
14 didn’t need it,’ he said. “But there were other players on that team for whom that would probably
15 have been very important.”

16 179. On April 10, 2013, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* reported that “[w]hen [NCAA
17 President] Mark Emmert gathered together more than 50 college presidents nearly two years ago to
18 discuss ideas for reforming big-time sports, the group came to a pretty clear consensus on the need to
19 increase aid to athletes.” The article continued that “[w]ith big money flowing in from TV contracts,
20 and increasing amounts going toward coaches’ salaries and facilities, the idea of allowing Division I
21 colleges to direct up to \$2,000 more a year to certain players seemed to make sense.” The
22 unfortunate postscript: “after a series of failed attempts to carry out the proposal, the NCAA is
23 essentially back to the drawing board.”

24 180. The article quoted Sidney A. McPhee, the President of NCAA member Middle
25 Tennessee State, and a proponent of the stipend, as being the “head of the NCAA Student-Athlete
26 Well-Being Working Group” and the “chief arbiter of the stipend debate.” It further states that “[t]he
27 climate has frustrated Mr. McPhee, who believes that even the less-wealthy programs have an
28 obligation to make a priority of players and their unmet financial needs. ‘If you want to compete [in

Division I,]’ he says, ‘you’ve got to step up.’” (bracketed text in original). The article continues that “[i]t’s also a matter of fairness, he says. Institutions increase aid packages for other students all the time, so why shouldn’t they do it for athletes too?” The article continues that “[o]ver the past few months, Mr. McPhee has expanded his group to include more athletic directors, presidents, financial-aid directors, and others. In recent weeks the group has spent much more time looking at the concept of aid and different ways to enhance it.” The article explained that rather than base any cap on athlete compensation on an assessment of the least restrictive alternative available, it was a simple question of what best suited the self-interest of the members of the cartel: “[i]n a recent straw poll, the group agreed almost unanimously with the idea of allowing increased aid for athletes. Still, Mr. McPhee is not optimistic that Division I members will ultimately support such a change. ‘There is still continuing opposition to doing anything,’ he says. ‘I’m afraid that whatever we do will have a high likelihood of an override.’”

181. An article in *U.S. News & World Report*, dated September 16, 2013 regarding stipend and other proposed reforms, stated that the NCAA Division I Board of Directors “hope to adopt proposals at its meeting next April [2014], and then have a special meeting for the membership next summer. ‘That could involve bringing all 350 members of Division I together and having every school vote on it,’ [NCAA President] Emmert said. ‘It’ll be a bit like a constitutional convention.’” Except of course, in this case, the “convention” is in fact an open meeting of an anti-competitive cartel, explicitly meeting to discuss whether the current fixed-price offering should be adjusted to another fixed-price offering.

182. On November 24, 2013, *The New York Times* reported that “Elizabeth Altmaier, a professor of Iowa who served on a number of N.C.A.A. panels on commercialism as a faculty athletics representative, said she believed there needed to be a way for college athletes to get more than scholarships. ‘People who say, in a very superior manner, that these kids had a college education and that’s sufficient remuneration are naïve at best, and blind at worst, to the realities of being a student athlete in a Division I institution.’”

183. On December 11, 2013, *The New York Times* reported President Emmert as stating: “There is an interest in making sure that full cost of attendance is covered. ... That number varies

1 from school to school. It can vary from \$0 to \$6,000. A debate the members will have to have is,
2 are we going to allow the closing of that gap? And if so, how high can we go? No one right now
3 wants to go above full cost of attendance, that a student-athlete could get what it costs to be a
4 student, but they're students, not unionized employees, not somebody that's on the payroll." It is
5 clear that the NCAA believes that it, its co-Defendants and other co-conspirators, can act with
6 impunity with respect to price competition in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, and that
7 rather than facing a market price, they will pay whatever they "allow" cartel members to offer.

8 **3. 2012 Statements.**

9 184. An *Associated Press* article dated December 5, 2012 stated that "Emmert chided
10 athletic programs that make major decisions guided by efforts to generate more revenue, then
11 complain they can't afford a stipend. At the forum, which is sponsored by IMG and hosted by
12 SportsBusiness Daily/Global/Journal, Emmert said of conference realignment: 'When people say
13 it's all about the money, that's not inaccurate.' He later took that argument to the stipends cause:
14 'When the world believes it's all a money grab, how can you say we can stick with the same
15 scholarship model as 40 years ago?'"

16 185. An article dated December 6, 2012, and presently posted by the NCAA on its website,
17 is titled "NCAA President Emmert fights for student-athletes' right to more funds." It states that
18 "NCAA President Mark Emmert is still determined to provide college athletes with 2,000 dollars for
19 expenses not covered by scholarships." It continues that "[t]he stipends would help cover the full
20 cost of attending college, which scholarships don't meet, providing money for expenses beyond
21 tuition, room and board, books and fees." The article continued that "[t]he biggest key to
22 implementing the stipends may be changing schools' mindsets. 'This is a branding issue,' Emmert
23 said." The article continued that "Emmert chided programs that make major decisions guided by
24 efforts to generate more revenue, then complain they can't afford a stipend." The article continued
25 that "Emmert argues that money is not the issue. Money is pouring in from TV deals. The new
26 college football playoff contract will be worth about 470 million dollars a year."

1 **4. 2011 Statements.**

2 186. On May 24, 2011, the NCAA posted on its website an article by an NCAA member
3 school's assistant director of compliance, who stated that "A few hundred bucks a month is not going
4 to make a great deal of difference for student-athletes who are offered lavish gifts like cars, personal
5 training, jewelry, trips to South Beach, etc. But according to former NFL agent Josh Luchs, many
6 times the benefits used to recruit a student-athlete are fairly modest. If a student-athlete can no longer
7 be swayed by pocket money, agents will be forced to provide bigger benefits to student-athletes. And
8 bigger benefits are easier to catch ... With the full cost of attendance covered for revenue sports and
9 star athletes, plus all the existing and legal ways to get cash to a student-athlete, it will no longer be a
10 case of *needing* to take money from agents or boosters."

11 187. NCAA President Mark Emmert also has repeatedly explained that there is little
12 chance that such payments will generate concerns regarding competitive balance because the power
13 of competition along many indirect fronts has already distributed talent in proportion to a
14 school's/conference's ability to compete for talent directly through the relief requested here:

15 a. "When you look at a student who's being recruited by heavily funded
16 institutions, those kids are rarely asking, "Do I go here, or do I go to an institution that has less
17 money? If students have the opportunity to go to that dominant athletic program, they're going to
18 go."¹³

19 b. "I don't think any of the Butler kids were recruited by, you know, by
20 Kansas."¹⁴

21 c. "So if you've got a gap between \$40,000 and \$150,000, (then) \$2,000 isn't
22 going to make much of a difference."¹⁵

23
24 ¹³ [http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes)
25 [rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes:](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes) [Emmert] When you look at a student who's being
26 recruited by heavily funded institutions, those kids are rarely asking, "Do I go here, or do I go to an
27 institution that has less money?" If students have the opportunity to go to that dominant athletic
28 program, they're going to go.

¹⁴ [http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes)
[rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes.](http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes)

¹⁵ [http://www.chron.com/sports/college/article/NCAA-s-Emmert-says-legislation-won-t-impact-](http://www.chron.com/sports/college/article/NCAA-s-Emmert-says-legislation-won-t-impact-gap-2251444.php)
gap-2251444.php: "Well, the gap right now is pretty enormous. If you look at the lowest-resourced

188. Emmert explained: “As for the continued separation of the haves and the have nots, that’s economics, Emmert said. ‘We’ve always had that. The financial differences have always been there. Some universities have huge competitive advantages [because] of history and culture and decisions that the university made over decades that are in some ways insurmountable and you wouldn’t want to take them away. ... I’m sure Alabama under Bear Bryant had these stunning competitive advantages ... Now to say that the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and Alabama have huge competitive disadvantages it didn’t look much different 40 years ago. It reinforces some of those inherent advantages some of those universities have had for a century.’”¹⁶

189. In a memo he wrote to then-recently chosen President Mark Emmert, Wally Renfro, the long-time Vice President of the NCAA, characterized Division I as being divided into the top 25 percent (the “haves”), the middle 50 percent (the “have-nots”), and the bottom 25 percent (the “forget-about-its”), and stated that the last group “has largely stopped trying to compete.”¹⁷

190. On December 15, 2011, the NCAA posted on its website another article by an NCAA member school’s assistant director of compliance, who stated that “Proposal 2011-96, which allows schools to provide up to \$2,000 beyond the current grant-in-aid limits, is not an unfunded mandate. They key word is allows. The proposal requires schools to do nothing, just permits them to.”

5. 2003 Statements.

191. Myles Brand, the former President of the NCAA, has admitted that the unlawful agreement is not necessary to preserve amateurism, and that athletic scholarships covering the Cost of Attendance would be fully compatible with the legitimate purposes and objectives of the NCAA. In a letter to the editors of the *Denver Post*, then-President Brand wrote the following in 2003:

Ideally, the value of an athletically related scholarship would be increased to cover the full-cost of attendance, calculated at between \$2000 and \$3000 more per year than is currently provided. I favor this approach of providing the full cost of attendance. The Division I

conference, they spend about \$40,000 per year per student-athlete, for all costs in. The Southeastern Conference at the top spends roughly four times that, so (about \$150,000) per student. So if you’ve got a gap between \$40,000 and \$150,000, (then) \$2,000 isn’t going to make much of a difference.”

¹⁶ <http://www.cbssports.com/collegefootball/blog/dennis-dodd/19217878/ncaa-president-conference-realignment-a-market-shakedown>.

¹⁷ Quoted in Case4:09-cv-01967-CW Document999-2 Filed02/26/14 Page138 of 230.

membership, which is where the final decision will be made, will continue to address the issue over the next several months.¹⁸

192. Indeed, Brand reconfirmed his support for eliminating the grant-in-aid cap even after a predecessor lawsuit was filed.¹⁹ Most recently, Brand stated that eliminating the grant-in-aid cap to allow scholarships covering the full Cost of Attendance “strikes me as a reasonable approach.”²⁰

6. The recent history of the latest stipend proposal.

193. On October 27, 2011, the NCAA issued a press release stating the following:

The Division I Board of Directors continued the quick-action precedent set earlier this summer, adopting a package of proposals Thursday that toughen academic standards and provide increased academic and economic support to student-athletes.

“These changes demonstrate a remarkable resolve by presidents,” said NCAA President Mark Emmert. “They represent a return to and a focus on values that are at the core of what intercollegiate athletics are all about. They also represent a clear signal to the world about what we care about and what we stand for.”

The Board approved an implementation plan – which includes all football bowl games – that mandates a certain level of academic performance in order to participate in postseason competition. The eligibility requirement will begin phasing in with the 2012-13 academic year.

The Board also adopted legislation giving student-athletes who receive full athletics scholarships the opportunity to receive additional athletics aid up to the full cost of attendance or \$2,000, whichever is less.

The working group that made the recommendation told the board the \$2,000 figure is meaningful in addressing the miscellaneous expenses student-athletes now have. Institutions will not be required to offer the benefit, but conferences are encouraged to consider common application within their membership.

...

Student-athlete well-being improvements

¹⁸ Myles Brand, “Welfare of Student-Athletes NCAA’s Top Priority,” Letter to the Editor, *Denver Post*, Aug. 17, 2003.

¹⁹ See Mark Alesia, “Lawsuit: NCAA Should Pay ‘Full Cost,’” *Indianapolis Star*, Feb. 22, 2006, available at <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060222/SPORTS/602220460>.

²⁰ Mark Alesia, “Tourney Money Fuels Pay to Play Debate: Fewer than 1% of Athletes Help Make More than 90% of the NCAA’s Money,” *Indianapolis Star*, Apr. 1, 2006, available at <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?Date=20060401&Category=SPORTS&ArtNo=604010509&SectionCat=&Template=printart>.

The Board also adopted legislation that addresses the miscellaneous costs of attending college. Student-athletes who receive full athletics scholarships or get other school financial aid combined with athletics aid to equal a full scholarship will have the opportunity to receive additional athletics aid (or other institutional aid, including use of the Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund) up to the institution's calculation of full cost of attendance or \$2,000, whichever is less.

The figure will be adjusted according to the consumer price index, so the presidents will not need to approve new figures when the cost of living changes. The Board resolved to not revisit the \$2,000 amount for three years.

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...

Penn State President Graham Spanier chaired the working group established to examine student-athlete well-being issues.

"We understand the situation of our student-athletes. This isn't about paying student-athletes, but it is about being fair and recognizing that in Division I it ought to be important to meet this need," Spanier said. "We all have lots of different choices to make, but we felt that these proposals are right for our student-athletes."

194. The NCAA further stated, in regards to an effective date, that the new rule would apply to "[a]id agreements that take effect August 1, 2012 [awards can be executed before that date]."

195. The NCAA's own statement that these Cost of Attendance stipends do not constitute "pay" is telling ("This isn't about paying student-athletes"). This is because the NCAA knows its definition of pay is entirely based on the arbitrary decisions of the cartel. If the NCAA allows any compensation, by Rule (*e.g.*, Bylaw 12.02.7) it is instantly transformed from pay into allowable financial aid. Bylaw 12.02.7 states that "Pay is the receipt of funds, awards or benefits not permitted by the governing legislation of the Association for participation in athletics." By this they make clear that the price is fixed, the rules are arbitrary and that there is nothing other than the will of a collusive body, and certainly no neutral weighing of the pro-competitive benefits versus the perils of collusion, that makes the decision.

1 196. On December 8, 2011, the NCAA posted on its website “Frequently Asked
2 Questions,” and stated this: “Does the same amount have to be offered every year of a multi-year
3 award? Multi-year awards are not required to award the same amount each year. For example, a
4 multi-year agreement can stipulate that a student-athlete will receive a certain amount in the
5 freshman year and a different amount in the sophomore year.”

6 197. On December 8, 2011, the NCAA also stated this question and answer that the
7 proposed change was subject to a cartel vote: “What if the legislation is overridden? Institutions
8 were permitted to offer both the miscellaneous expense allowance and multi-year awards to recruits
9 beginning with the early NLI signing period in November. Both rules are subject to override, but
10 agreements signed prior to the last day for override requests (December 26) will be honored.”

11 198. The cartel did in fact choose to disallow even this small amount of market-base
12 competition. On December 15, 2011, the NCAA’s news service reported that “[t]he new rule
13 allowing Division I institutions to give some student-athletes an additional \$2,000 miscellaneous
14 expense allowance has been suspended until the Board of Directors convenes in January. As of
15 Dec. 15, enough schools – 125 – have called for an override of the legislation to prompt the
16 automatic suspension under NCAA bylaws.” The NCAA’s release quoted NCAA President Mark
17 Emmert as stating “Based on conversations I have had, I am confident that there remains a very high
18 level of support for this permissive legislation to provide better support for our student athletes.”

19 199. The NCAA, however, made clear that the rule itself offered no chance of harm to the
20 NCAA itself, and explicitly announced that “[a]ny allowances offered in writing during the
21 November [2011] early signing period will be honored, according to Division I Vice President David
22 Berst. Nearly 10,000 prospective Division I student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent for
23 next year during the early signing period in November.” The NCAA continued that “[u]nless the
24 Board takes some action to alter the proposal, prospective student-athletes who sign with schools
25 during the upcoming signing periods in February and April will not have the option to receive the
26 additional \$2,000 allowance.”

27 200. On January 14, 2012, the NCAA issued another press release, stating that “The
28 Division I Board of Directors reaffirmed Saturday its support for a \$2,000 miscellaneous expense

1 allowance, but direct the Student-Athlete Well-Being working group to come back to the presidents
2 [of NCAA member institutions] in April with recommendations for implantation.”

3 201. On November 3, 2012, *The Associated Press* reported that rather than being based on
4 an assessment of the least restrictive alternative available, the decision was done solely to appease
5 the cost-containment concerns of cartel members: “[t]he \$2,000 was a ‘compromise’ among [NCAA
6 Division I Board of Directors] members, Emmert said. Some thought that the total amount should
7 have been higher, but Emmert said the board wanted to settle on a reasonable amount it felt all
8 schools would be able to afford. ‘It could’ve been higher, it could’ve been lower,’ he said. ‘But that
9 was the number that everyone agreed was a good place to be.’ Emmert says the stipend bears no
10 comparison to offering a salary to a student-athlete, essentially making him or her a paid employee
11 of the university. ‘We’re still supporting them as students, not as somebody we’re paying to play a
12 game,’ said Emmert, a former president at the University of Washington.”

13 202. In October 2013, the NCAA issued a press release referring to its Division I
14 Leadership Council having convened a meeting on October 24, 2013, in Indianapolis. The NCAA
15 stated that competitive balance was not impacted by a less restrictive version of its current price-
16 fixing, stating: “Council members agree that the true ‘level playing field’ between schools cannot be
17 achieved by making rules that limit the ability of schools with more resources to use them. Members
18 stress that in some areas rules could become more permissive to allow schools who can afford to take
19 advantage of the flexibility to do so.” The press release continued that “Many [Council members]
20 believe that student-athlete benefits, including a change in the definition of a full athletics
21 scholarship to include the full cost of attendance, could be an area of compromise.”

22 203. On October 29, 2013, the NCAA’s Division IA Athletics Directors Association made
23 a presentation to the NCAA’s Board of Directors. *Yahoo! Sports* reported that “Morgan Burke and
24 Mike Alden, athletic directors at Purdue and Missouri, respectively, made the presentation on behalf
25 of the Division IA Athletic Directors Association and the National Association of College Directors
26 of Athletics.” The article continued that “The athletic directors’ proposal is considered particularly
27 influential because of their roles of running the on-campus operations of some 350 schools of all
28 shapes and sizes.” The article continued that “[o]ne source believes the proposal made by the

1 athletic directors is, in general, similar to one made by the conference commissioners, easily the
2 other most influential group in college athletics.”

3 204. *Yahoo! Sports* posted a copy of the proposal, which includes this statement:
4 “Intercollegiate Athletics must ensure and improve student-athlete well-being which include the
5 ability to increase opportunities for student-athletes to receive athletics’ [sic] assistance beyond what
6 is currently available.”

7 205. On October 29, 2013, *USA Today* quoted Purdue athletics director Morgan Burke,
8 who represented the IA Athletics Directors Association at the meeting, as stating that, with respect to
9 the numerous proposed changes presented, “There will have to be some give and take as we do down
10 the road, but the fact that all 351 (Division I) athletics directors are speaking out of the same hymnal,
11 it’s the first time in my 20 years.” This representation that a clear meeting of the minds among
12 employees of all 351 competitors in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market had been reached
13 is a clear statement of the renewal of the collusive agreement.

14 206. NACDA’s website states, in an entry dated September 25, 2013, under the slogan,
15 “351 Division I Programs – ONE VOICE” the following: “NACDA President Mike Alden, athletics
16 director at the University of Missouri and D1A Athletic Directors’ Association President Morgan
17 Burke, athletics director at Purdue University, are serving as national spokesmen for all 351
18 Division I programs.” It continues that “The National Association of Collegiate Directors of
19 Athletics (NACDA) and the 1A Athletic Directors’ Association, in addition to NACDA’s Affiliate
20 Associations, the Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Association and the Division I-AAA
21 Athletics Directors Association (DI-AA ADA), are working as a cohesive unit in developing
22 recommendations that will help improve the governance and operation of intercollegiate athletics.”

23 207. The website links to the transcript of a teleconference dated September 27, 2013,
24 which contains the following exchanges (again, under the prominent slogan “351 Division I
25 Programs – ONE VOICE”) explained that the competitors discussed prices and came to an explicit
26 agreement that the current price fix was not necessary, but that actual competition would not be
27 permitted by cartel rule:
28

1 Q. Morgan, obviously the statement the other day kind of speaks for
2 itself, but where does your group come down on potential cost-of-
attendance stipends for student-athletes?

3 MORGAN BURKE: Well, I think that's a subject that's going to get a
4 lot of debate, has gotten a lot of debate, as people have looked at
5 miscellaneous expense allowance. We're committed to trying to make
6 sure the resources that are needed for a quality student-athlete
7 experience are there.

8 Certainly if you go back into the 1960s, there was such a thing called
9 laundry money, incidental money given to the student-athletes. That
10 went away in the mid '70s. I think you're going to see a question occur
11 on that topic.

12 ...

13 **Q. In the statement the other day, you addressed the integrity
14 issue that needs to be handled effectively, enforcement. What are
15 some of the recommendations that you're making beyond what is
16 already being done at the NCAA level?**

17 MORGAN BURKE: I'm a big supporter for what the NCAA stands
18 for. Again, we are the NCAA.

19 ...

20 **Q. Mike, in the statement you put out the other day, you said, Pay-
21 for-play is not part of the amateur setting, there's no place for
22 that. You and the SEC have said before that you'd be for
23 exploring stipends and things like that. How do the two opinions
24 vibe and how do they play into each other?**

25 MIKE ALDEN: I appreciate that. You know, what I had said earlier
26 on this call, but also is we don't talk about pay-for-play. Wherever
27 that's come from, whoever has created that terminology, that hasn't
28 been necessarily anything that we've either talked about at Mizzou or
talked about as athletics directors or certainly from an SEC standpoint.

What we've talked about is exploring the opportunity for a full cost of
attendance. I used the example a little bit earlier, I'm going to reiterate
it. I'm using my son as an example. Jake is a freshman here at
Purdue. When we came here as his parents this summer, they showed
us what our tuition, fees, books, room and board would be. They said,
That's not what it's going to cost for him to go to school at Purdue, it's
going to be a little bit more. His full cost of attendance, as parents, you
need to budget a little bit more because he's probably going to come
home twice, he needs incidental expense money, laundry money,
whatever it may be.

That's the area all of us are looking at to explore. How do we have an
opportunity to really look at what term, and most schools term, not
athletics, most schools of higher education term 'a full cost of
attendance.'

D. NCAA Conferences' Statements Regarding the Stipend Proposal

1. The Pac 12.

208. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Pac 12 would make competitive offers in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of Attendance and that the conference did not see any harm to the Pac 12's views of amateurism or competitive balance from making such offers in that market. For example, on June 15, 2011, *The Denver Post* reported the following:

[T]he issue of athletes getting shortchanged by major-college football's billion-dollar business has pushed Scott to seek an increase in scholarship money for every varsity athlete on a Pac-12 campus.

"It's a question of priorities, and sometimes you have to prioritize what's right," Scott said. "I think this is an issue of principle. And we're going to advocate for it."

Scott broached the topic with Pac-12 athletic directors at their recent conference meetings. His pitch received mixed reviews. The athletic directors are ecstatic about getting about \$20 million a year in television revenue per school once the new TV contracts kick in, but many will need that money to soak up red ink.

Increasing scholarships for tuition that is rising rapidly on many campuses would put it right back.

"Morally, I think it's the right thing to do," Oregon State athletic director Bob De Carolis said. "But there are a lot of other issues and a lot of ways to get to it."

Scott presented hard data in Seattle. He said the shortfall between the amount of an athletic scholarship and actual living expenses – termed "cost of attendance" – is \$2,000 to \$4,000 per student per school year.

"Our concern is kids from underprivileged backgrounds who literally have trouble covering costs, have a meal, have a little spending money," Scott said. "That's a concern."

...

The move could provide an uneven playing field.

"I don't think there is an even playing field," Scott said. "There's not an even playing field in TV exposure. There's not an even playing field in coaches and coaches salaries. There's not an even playing field in stadiums."

...

1 “I think the kids need more money, period,” said Washington State
2 football coach Paul Wulff. “They say they can work a job, but it’s
unrealistic for what we ask these guys to do.”

3 Wulff said he advocates providing a stipend of about \$200 a month.

4 “The only reason I say that is to make sure they can eat,” he said. “In
5 my opinion, I’d rather not give them any more money but have the
6 ability to feed them two meals a day minimum every day. I don’t want
to hear a kid say, ‘Coach, I don’t have enough money to eat.’ It harms
their performance.”

7 It’s a long way from fruition, but the debate won’t go away. Scott will
8 make sure it won’t.

9 “No one relishes the idea of increased funding,” Scott said. “By the
10 same token, we are as a conference at a level in terms of resources
coming and a conference that likes to stand for doing things the right
way, that it’s the right thing.”

11 209. On January 6, 2013, the *Associated Press* reported that “The problem is scholarship
12 rules have lagged behind the times, said Pac-12 Conference Commissioner Larry Scott, now in his
13 fourth year in the job. His conference, like most of the major ones, supports a stipend. ‘The
14 scholarship rules don’t allow you to cover the full cost of attendance,’ he said. ‘Doesn’t cover things
15 like miscellaneous meals, trips home, clothes and other things. For me there has been a gap. This
16 does not cross the philosophical Rubicon of paying players.’”

17 210. On June 2, 2013, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that “Scott address a number of
18 topics Monday during a conference call with reporters following last weekend’s summer meetings in
19 Park City, Utah.” The article continued that “[t]he full cost of attendance issue is not going away.
20 Several major conferences, including the Southeastern [SEC] and Pac-12, favor a plan that will use
21 increased television money to compensate their athletes with an additional scholarship stipend ...
22 ‘I’d like to think it could happen under the current structure,’ Scott said of the stipend. ‘This is
23 clearly the right thing.’”

24 211. On July 25, 2013, *Sports Illustrated’s* SI.com reported that “[t]he big five conferences
25 [Pac-12, SEC, Atlantic Coast Conference, Big 12, and Big Ten] want to be able to give the stipend to
26 all scholarship athletes.” The article quotes Pac 12 Commissioner Larry Scott as stating that,
27 “[s]chools that have resources and want to be able to do more for student-athletes are frustrated,
28 concerned that we’re being held back from doing more for the student-athletes in terms of the

1 stipend.” With respect to the smaller NCAA member schools that had blocked implementation of
 2 the stipend, he stated that “[t]he idea that there is an even playing field in terms for resources is a
 3 fanciful and quaint notion.” The article continued that “Scott compared the stipend being stymied to
 4 the delays in bringing instant replay to college football in the 2000s.” The article quoted
 5 Commissioner Scott as stating that “[i]nstant replay took longer than it needed to get into college
 6 football because not everyone could do it. There are still some schools out there whose conferences
 7 can’t afford instant replay. It doesn’t strike me that the world’s fallen in or that it’s created some
 8 crisis just because everyone can’t have instant reply.”

9 212. On July 27, 2013, the *Denver Post* reported the following regarding Pac 12
 10 Conference Commissioner Larry Scott’s statements at the Pac 12’s preview held at Sony Studios, in
 11 Culver City, California: “Scott is fully behind the cost-of-attendance stipend most of the smaller
 12 schools can’t afford. A figure of \$2,000 per scholarship athlete for a school year has been
 13 mentioned. It remains in the discussion stages. ‘This must be addressed,’ Scott said.” The article
 14 continued that “[t]he major conferences’ bigger beef is smaller schools blocking legislation favored
 15 by the minority that makes most of the money. ‘It’s time to acknowledge that one size does not fit
 16 all and that we need more flexibility in the system,’ Scott said. ‘We must design a structure that
 17 allows for appropriate differences based on priorities and resources throughout the NCAA.’”

18 213. On November 24, 2013, *The New York Times* quoted Mr. Scott as stating that
 19 “[t]here’s a strong feeling we need to loosen up the reins of what the high-resource conferences can
 20 do for student athletes.”

21 **2. The Southeastern Conference.**

22 214. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Southeastern Conference would make
 23 competitive offers in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of
 24 Attendance and that the conference did not see any harm to the Southeastern Conference’s views of
 25 amateurism or competitive balance from making such offers in that market. For example, the
 26 *Associated Press*, in an article dated January 6, 2013, reported Commissioner Slive as stating with
 27 respect to the proposed \$2,000 stipend, “It doesn’t strike me as drastic by definition. There is a fixed
 28 definition for a scholarship. There’s no reason why it shouldn’t be reviewed.” Commissioner Slive

1 continued that “I do understand the economics, that it might be more difficult for some than others,
2 but for those that can do it, it’s the right thing to do and that ought to be the guiding factor.”

3 215. The Southeastern Conference’s Commissioner Mike Slive stated the following in an
4 interview on April 29, 2013, with respect to the NCAA’s failure to allow a \$2,000 stipend: “It’s a
5 disappointment that it’s not taken care of yet. We truly believe that we ought to do more for our
6 student-athletes than just the room, board, books and tuition. We’re hopeful that we can continue to
7 make that work ... I think it’s fair to say it’s an idea that’s not going to go away.”

8 216. An *Associated Press* article dated January 6, 2013, quoted Alabama football coach
9 Nick Saban as follows:

10 A lot of the young people that we have, that play college football, the
11 demographics that they come from, they don’t have a lot and I think
12 we should try to create a situation where their quality of life, while
they’re getting an education, might be a little better.

13 I feel that the athletes should share in some of this to some degree. I
14 don’t really have an opinion on how that should be done. There’s a lot
15 of other people who probably have a lot more experience in figuring
16 that one out, but I do think we should try to enhance the quality of life
for all student-athletes.

I believe the leadership in the NCAA finally sort of acknowledges that
so that’s probably a big step in that direction.

17 217. A *USA Today* article, from that same day, further quoted Mr. Saban as stating that “I
18 don’t think there’s any question about the fact that something ... I do think that something should be
19 done to enhance the quality of life of student-athletes that are on scholarship because in our sport
20 especially, there is socioeconomic groups that struggle a little bit, even with a scholarship, because
21 there is a cost associate with going to college that is beyond room, board, tuition in books.” The
22 article further stated that “Saban pointed to the windfalls provided by conference TV networks and
23 the coming college football playoff as a compelling reason for the discussion. ‘I think especially
24 where we’ve sort of gotten to from a business perspective relative to the financial end of things that
25 there isn’t really any good reason that the student-athletes who create that should not share in that to
26 some degree.’”

1 218. When asked what he would change with the NCAA if he had the power to do so,
2 Mr. Calipari stated that “[t]here would be a stipend, probably in the area of \$4,000 to \$5,000, and
3 I’m talking men and women, all the athletes.”

4 219. On July 16, 2013, ESPN.com, in an article titled “Steve Spurrier stumps for stipends,”
5 reported that “[University of] South Carolina [football] coach Steve Spurrier gave a peek behind the
6 curtain of the annual Southeastern Conference coaches meetings Tuesday, revealing that the league’s
7 coaches voted unanimously that every student-athlete in basketball and football should be given a
8 stipend affording their parents travel expenses to and from games.” The article continued that “[t]he
9 league’s elder statesman among football coaches said it is only right that those players who generate
10 the school so much money should be given what would amount to a minor benefit.” The article
11 quoted Mr. Spurrier as stating:

12 We believe those two sports, the income producers, those players –
13 most of them come from lower-income families – that we should
14 provide some expense money so their parents can go to the games –
15 lodging, travel, meals, what have you,” Spurrier said. “We’re only
16 talking about in football like \$300 a game, basketball would be a little
17 less, where the players in the course of the year have \$3,600-\$3,900,
18 depending on how many games you play, just to have a little bit of
19 pocket money and their parents can have money to come to games.

20 220. The article continued that “Spurrier has pushed for stipends for the past two years,
21 and reiterated Tuesday that all the SEC football and basketball coaches agreed their players deserved
22 what would amount to pocket change compared to the money generated from ticket sales and
23 television revenue.” The article continued that “Spurrier said it wasn’t “pay-for-play,” but rather
24 expense money. In fact, Spurrier said the coaches would pay for the expenses out of pocket, if need
25 be.”

26 221. The connection between coach earnings and the compensation of revenue-producing
27 athletes was not lost on University of South Carolina football coach Steve Spurrier (Neuharth,
28 June 9, 2011) who developed a proposal to provide a stipend to players on a per game basis that
garnered support from Alabama’s Nick Saban, Florida’s Will Muschamp, LSU’s Les Miles,
Mississippi’s Houston Nutt, Mississippi State’s Dan Mullen and Tennessee’s Derek Dooley. In
explaining the rationale for the proposal, Spurrier said, “A bunch of us coaches felt so strongly about

1 it that we would be willing to pay it – 70 guys, 300 bucks a game,” Spurrier said. “That’s only
 2 \$21,000 a game. I doubt it will get passed, but as coaches in the SEC, we make all the money – as
 3 do universities, television – and we need to get more to our players” (Long, June 1, 2011). Spurrier
 4 went on to say that “People don’t realize that most football players come from underprivileged
 5 homes. My plan was meant to show that I believe our players deserve more expense money to be
 6 more like the average college student.”

7 **3. The Big Ten.**

8 222. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Big Ten would make competitive offers
 9 in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of Attendance and that the
 10 conference did not see any harm to the Big Ten’s views of amateurism or competitive balance from
 11 making such offers in that market, although the Big Ten has also indicated at times it intends to do so
 12 (absent an injunction from this Court) only subject to an anti-competitive agreement with its
 13 competitors. For example, on May 19, 2011, ESPN.com reported:

14 Big Ten officials discussed a proposal that would pay athletes to help
 15 cover living expenses on top of their scholarships during the league’s
 spring meetings this week.

16 The idea, which is backed by current NCAA president Mark Emmert
 17 and was favored by late NCAA president Myles Brand, is to bridge the
 18 gap between what athletic scholarships pay and other expenses like
 transportation and clothing. That difference has been estimated at
 between \$2,000 to \$5,000 per player.

19 Big Ten commissioner Jim Delany said league athletic directors and
 20 officials have seriously discussed whether they should use some of
 their growing TV revenue to pay athletes more.

21 “Forty years ago, you had a scholarship plus \$15 a month laundry
 22 money,” Delany said. “Today, you have the same scholarship, but not
 with the \$15 laundry money.

23 “How do we get back more toward the collegiate model and a
 24 regulatory system that is based more on student-athlete welfare than it
 25 is on a level playing field, where everything is about a cost issue and
 whether or not everybody can afford to do everything everybody else
 can do?” Delany asked.

26 Delany stressed that the Big Ten was merely at the discussion stage,
 27 but he added the league is interested in talking to other conferences to
 28 see if they also favor such a plan. He acknowledged many schools and
 conferences across the country couldn’t afford to cover those

1 additional expenses, which could run about \$300,000 a year just for
2 football and men's basketball players alone.

3 But some Big Ten officials say if they can help out their athletes, then
4 the concept of using the same rules for all teams should be abandoned.
Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith said the stakes are simply
higher for schools like his than for those in the MAC or Sun Belt.

5 "The reality is, if there's cost of attendance and you can't afford it,
6 don't do it," Smith said. "The teams you're trying to beat can't do it
7 either. Don't do it because Ohio State's doing it. That's one of the
things schools at that level get trapped into thinking."

8 223. On July 24, 2013, the *Chicago Sun-Times* reported Commissioner Delany as stating
9 that "a miscellaneous expense needs to be implemented, and it needs to be implemented in a way that
10 allows the student to engage in athletics and also to receive support from the institution above the
11 scholarship, up to the cost of education."

12 224. On August 7, 2013, *USA Today* reported Commissioner Delany as stating "[m]y line
13 is cost of attendance, and that's as far as I'm willing to do. After cost of attendance, then I think
14 you're into another game, pay for play, and I'm personally not in favor of it."

15 225. On September 26, 2013, *USA Today* reported that Commissioner Delany stressed the
16 need to "do everything we should do to define a fair package that fits for the 21st Century." The
17 article continued that Delaney's "preferred model would include the ability for those conferences to
18 have the autonomy to legislate their own rules without – or with much less regard for – the concept
19 of an artificially 'level playing field' for schools with fewer resources. The wealthier schools would
20 be able to provide more benefits to athletes, such as stipends to help cover full cost of attendance and
21 miscellaneous expenses. Delany also suggested as examples expanded educational opportunities and
22 allowing schools to pay expenses of players' parents on road trips. 'There are things we can do to
23 prioritize their experience,' he said. 'But I feel as strongly as I did 20 years ago it's not pay-for-
24 play.'"

25 226. Tom Osbourne, the then Athletic Director at the University of Nebraska in 2012, and
26 formerly a football coach there for 25 years, stated this in an interview with the *Associated Press*
27 published on December 25, 2012, and presently posted by the NCAA on its website:

28 I would hope student-athletes can be put somewhere at the forefront of
the agenda. I find it odd that you see the escalation of dollars yet there

1 seems to be a lot of controversy over providing student-athletes with a
2 \$2,000 stipend. It doesn't quite compute. It seems to me that the
3 athletic scholarship should be cost of attendance, not just room, board,
4 books, tuition and fees ...

5 227. SI.com, in an article dated November 11, 2013, discussed Nebraska's Chancellor
6 Harvey Perlman, "who is the Big Ten's [Conference] representative on NCAA reform," and quote
7 Perlman as stating that "[t]he fact is that with all this revenue that we have, we can spend it on
8 anything we want under current NCAA regulations, except to benefit student-athletes." He
9 continued that "That's where we're regulated and prevented from doing things. I'm not saying we're
10 going to pay them. None of us would agree to that. But there are a variety of areas to have
11 opportunities among the five to consider the rules we want to live with."

12 **4. The Big 12.**

13 228. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Big 12 would make competitive offers
14 in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of Attendance and that the
15 conference did not see any harm to the Big 12's views of amateurism or competitive balance from
16 making such offers in that market. For example, on April 17, 2013, Big 12 Commissioner Bob
17 Bowlsby stated the following in a television interview on the Longhorn Network:

18 "I served on the NCAA's Financial Aid and Amateurism Committee
19 30 years ago, and we came up with the revolutionary idea that it should
20 be room, board, book, tuition and fees and \$2,000 a year, so not much
21 has changed over the last decades. But, I really think we all
22 understand that it costs more than room, board, books and tuition and
23 fees to go to college, so I could certainly advocate for some measure of
24 incremental payment to student-athletes if were to come up with a
25 plan, that especially on a need basis, would put some additional money
26 in the hands of student-athletes, and when I say student-athletes, I
27 don't just mean football player or basketball players. I think if you
28 apply any form of the labor theory of value, swimmers work just as
hard as the basketball players, the track athletes work just as hard as
the football players do, I think we have to do it for all student athletes,
men and women, on a need basis, and if it goes above \$2,000 per year
per student athlete, so be it, I think it's a great thing to do for the young
people that populate our programs, they all work hard, and they all
deserve the consideration."

On June 2, 2011, the Associated Press reported the following statement
from University of Texas' Athletic Director DeLoss Dodds in regards
to increasing the value of athletic scholarships to the cost of
attendance: "We're for it. It's a positive step and I think doing
something for student-athletes is a positive thing."

On June 27, 2011, the *Dallas Morning News* reported that Bill Byrne, then the Athletic Director of Texas A&M, stated that “I’ve been in favor of total cost of attendance forever, whether I was working at a have or have not [school]. So many student-athletes come from disadvantaged backgrounds and have to pay their way to school or laundry or the movies. If you really care about the welfare of student-athletes, dig a little deeper.”

5. The Atlantic Coast Conference.

229. It is clear that absent the current restraint, the Atlantic Coast Conference would make competitive offers in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market for at least the full Cost of Attendance and that the conference did not see any harm to the Atlantic Coast Conference’s views of amateurism or competitive balance from making such offers in that market. For example, on July 21, 2013, ESPN.com reported that Atlantic Coast Conference Commissioner John Swofford stated the following: “I am for looking very diligently at a way to enhance the scholarship itself, whether it’s need based, whether it’s based on a simple stipend that once existed or some other way to approach it, whether it’s going to the full cost of attendance.” On October 16, 2013, Durham, North Carolina’s *The Herald-Sun* reported Commissioner Swofford as stating that “I’m for enhancing fundamentally the concept of the athletic grant made that we have now” and that “we can’t live with our heads stuck in the sand.”

E. Football Bowl Subdivision Football Players Seek the Ability to Compete without Anti-competitive Restraint in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market

230. A January 6, 2013, *Associated Press* article reported the following regarding the proposed stipend:

“It kind of goes both ways,” said Alabama defensive back Vinnie Sunseri, whose father, Sal, is a college football coach and former NFL player. “A lot of people would say we don’t deserve it because we already get enough as college kids that just happen to play a sport. A lot of people don’t realize all the work that goes into all the stuff that we have to do throughout the day.

“I have no time during the day. I wake up at 6 a.m., lift, go to class, right after class you come back up to the football complex to watch film and get ready for practice. By the time you get out, you’ve got to go to study hall. By the time you get out of study hall, it’s basically bed time. It is really like a full-time job.”

Alabama long-snapper Carson Tinker made the team as a non-scholarship walk-on, but earned a scholarship this season.

“I’m very thankful for my scholarship,” Tinker said. “All of us have bills. All of us have expenses, just like every other student. I don’t live with football players. I live with two of my good friends. While I’m at practice every day, they have a job. They’re able to pay their bills, buy food, stuff like that.”

231. In an article dated September 24, 2013, the writer Patrick Hruby reported:

Speaking of bad situations, Foster says in “Schooled” that his athletic scholarship didn’t always leave him with enough money to eat and pay rent, and that a coach once bought him and his teammates “like, 50 tacos for like four or five of us. Which is an NCAA violation.” Foster also claimed he took under-the-table payments during his senior year. Some accused him of lying. *Don’t college athletes get lavish training tables? No way those guys go hungry.* Yet according to a recent study by Drexel University professor Ellen Staurowsky, the average difference between scholarship value and the full cost of attending school for Football Bowl Subdivision players in 2011-2012 was \$3,285.

Former Marshall University quarterback Brian Anderson says he experienced that gap, particularly when he lived off-campus his junior and senior years. His scholarship provided roughly \$900 a month during the school year for food and rent, and less during summer months. “So you’re spending \$400 bucks on rent, and the rest is for food, gas, and things like clothes. For some kids, that isn’t enough. I was lucky. I had parents who could provide for me.”

And what about training tables?

“As far as that being provided, it was always provided after practice if we got out after the cafeteria was closed,” says Anderson. “But there were a lot of times we didn’t know if we were going to get paid for a weekend when the lunch room wasn’t open or something. If we got that money, we were surprised and excited. If we didn’t, it was what it was. What the NCAA said the school could pay us. We weren’t going to speak out about it.”

232. On July 26, 2013, *Sports Illustrated’s* SI.com reported: “During Friday’s Pac-12 media day, Stanford offensive lineman David Yankey fielded a question about stipends. He responded by saying: “I definitely think the extra money would help a lot. A full scholarship doesn’t cover everything, as far as traveling home to see your parents, especially when you go across the county to a place like Stanford, personally being from Georgia. That could help a lot of players.”

F. Other Statements Supporting the Stipend Proposal

233. On June 28, 2007, basketball legend Oscar Robertson, in an Op-Ed piece in *The New York Times*, wrote that “College Athletes should also receive a modest stipend and more realistic expense money. If athletes have to struggle to get by, of course they will want to turn pro as soon as

possible. They're also more likely to accept money from agents who want to sign them, although agents aren't the only people who slip money to college athletes. (Signing with an agent makes players ineligible for the college game, whether or not money has changed hands – but coaches are allowed to collect fees for referring agents to players!).”

234. On March 29, 2013, *The New York Times* reported that “Gary Williams, who has been a [men’s basketball] head coach at multiple colleges, most notably at the University of Maryland, said ‘I’d be the first one to say players should get a stipend. At a big-time program, you’re generating not just the dollars you bring in but the interest of your alumni that will give money to the school, not just to the athletic department. And the applications increase, which is really important to the school.’” Mr. Williams also served as head coach at Ohio State University, Boston College, and American University. In 2002, he coached the University of Maryland to the national championship. He retired from coaching after the 2010-11 season, and now serves as college basketball analyst for the Big Ten Network, owned by powerful NCAA member the Big Ten Conference.

G. NCAA Members Statements against the Stipend Proposal Show that Opposition is Not Based on Valid Antitrust Defenses, but Rather Serve Primarily as Cost-Cutting Efforts or as Means of substituting the Judgment of the Cartel for that of the Market

235. In vigorously opposing the stipend rule, NCAA member institutions laid bare their anti-competitive motivations. Below are actual comments made by NCAA member institutions to the NCAA in conjunction with the successful effort by NCAA member institutions to repeal the stipend rule, demonstrating the lack of pro-competitive motives for maintaining the current level of fixed prices. These invalid justifications include a desire to lower costs, a desire to restrict the choices of athletes in the labor market, or a simple aversion to seeing its labor force with money to spend.²¹

American University:

“[O]ur institution does not have the resources to cover the additional cost, so this proposal would put us at a disadvantage.”

²¹ http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2011/writers/andy_staples/12/20/ncaa-student-athletes/index.html?eref=sihp&sct=hp_t11_a2.

1 **Boise State University:**

2 “It creates a recruiting advantage for those that can afford it and puts
3 those that can’t at a disadvantage.”

4 “That tough decision [where to attend college] becomes more
5 complicated when the student and his/her family have to factor in what
6 school ‘offers the best deal’ versus where they may want to attend if all
7 offers were for one year without the enticement of \$2,000.”

8 **Boston University:**

9 It would be “compelled to reallocate financial aid in this direction in
10 order to be competitive in recruitment.”

11 **East Tennessee State University:**

12 “While the legislation is permissive as written, it is mandatory in its
13 practical application. Some conferences and institutions have already
14 mandated the MEA for all or selected sports; those without a
15 conference or institutional mandate must respond in kind to avoid a
16 substantial recruiting disadvantage.”

17 Schools “with larger budgets ... able to make up the financial
18 difference between their current athletic equivalency and their current
19 overall equivalency will be able to award more scholarship dollars to a
20 greater number of student-athletes.”

21 **Gardner-Webb University:**

22 Citing “cost concerns.”

23 **Idaho State University:**

24 “The consequences of not being able to provide this additional money
25 will put our institutions at a recruiting and competitive disadvantage.
26 Prospective student-athletes and their parents are likely to ask about
27 the \$2,000 being included in a financial aid award. When our coaches
28 state that they can not provide the additional funds, it will be less likely
29 that the prospective student-athlete commits to our institution if they
30 are offered the money elsewhere.”

31 **Indiana State University:**

32 “The budgetary impact upon FCS schools such as our institution ...
33 seem to have gone completely unaddressed by the powers that be. I
34 am sure this is a great thing for the mid to upper-tier BCS schools, but
35 the impact and possible recruiting disadvantage it imposes on the rest
36 of us is absolutely unacceptable.”

37 **Lafayette College:**

38 “While this is interpreted as permissive legislation, this will become a
39 mandatory requirement for providing full scholarship [sic] at any level

in Division I. Only few [sic] can actually afford the implications of this bylaw to the fullest extent.”

Marshall University:

“The institution is not in a position to fund the additional costs associated with a miscellaneous expense. Many institutions are likely to be in the same position which would create a competitive advantage for those institutions who had large budgets.”

Miami University (Ohio):

Referencing “the question of where to find the additional revenue to pay for this ‘allowance’ . . .”

Rutgers:

Referencing “the lopsided effect it will have on certain institutions without the financial resources to provide this MEA which then cascades into a competitive effect in recruiting and retention.”

Santa Clara University:

“The intent of the proposal is admirable, but the strain of appropriating additional funds for full scholarship student-athletes makes the struggle to fund scholarships across all sports that much more difficult.”

St. Francis College (New York):

“When combined with the proposal to allow multi-year grants-in-aid, this will bring forth the sort of negotiations (potentially involving third parties) as prospective student-athletes shop themselves around for the best deal (in terms of length and compensation).”

Tennessee Technological University (“Tennessee Tech”):

The new rule “will lead to unlevel playing fields as some institutions will bow to pressure; or in some cases have assets that will allow student-athletes across the board to receive the other countable aid in order to be more competitive athletically.”

I want to share a very supportive and knowledgeable university professor’s view of this change in legislation. He writes ... “[i]t seems most dubious to give some student athletes what amounts to ‘tattoo money’ at a time when far too many others are unable to put food on the table, and the institutions themselves are almost all facing choices among various undesirable options.”

University of Maryland, Baltimore County:

“Trying to legislate cost saving [sic] in other areas, while adding this potential hugh [sic] expense to institutions.”

University of North Carolina, Asheville:

“Increased financial burdens during tough economic times – Many schools have not raised faculty salaries in 2 to 4 years ... Though framed as ‘permissive’ legislation, the \$2,000 extra stipend becomes mandatory as institutions recruit to compete with their peers – The \$2,000 stipend is only a beginning and will surely increase over time.”

University of North Florida:

“Schools with large financial aid funding and the right amount of creativity will find ways in which they no longer have to worry about scholarship limits.”

University of South Carolina Upstate:

“Although this legislation has been described as permissive, in order to remain competitive in recruiting this will become mandatory for any institution desiring to compete with its peers.”

University of Tennessee at Martin:

“It’s not realistic to maintain that this legislation is permissive and not acknowledge the costs it will create because of competitive equity.”

“There’s another aspect of the ‘cost of attendance’ legislation that baffles me. Let us all remember that there’s nothing that says we ‘must’ give a student-athlete a scholarship **and** allow him or her to keep full Pell Grant ... But most of us do, at least in our high profile sports, because our competition does.” (Emphasis in original.)

“Another reason for overriding this legislation should be the needed to at least eliminate its application to FCS football. The football championship division exists because there are about 120 Division I institutions that sponsor football programs and choose to spend less on scholarships, coaching staffs, etc. than the Division I Football Bowl Subdivision members. Taking a stand against the Cost of Attendance, at least for FCS football, would be consistent with that philosophy.”

“I hope our presidents of institutions with over 25% of their athletic budgets funded by allocated resources will resolve to do all they can to derail this legislation before the next national signing date [for recruits] in February, especially OVC football.”

“Unlike coaches [sic] salaries, the market does not demand cost of attendance stipends. The athletes will play their sports without them.”

University of Texas, Pan American:

“With so many budget cuts and the decrease in funding across college campuses this additional \$2000 will only hurt those institutions who are already struggling to fully fund their programs.”

Winthrop University:

“The labeling this legislation as ‘permissive’ is a misnomer, considering all ‘permissive’ legislation leads to required legislation to compete with peers, particularly in recruiting ... This legislation will not stop with \$2,000/yr, and will likely increase in the future, which would lead to even more budgetary constraints.”

Wright State University:

The proposed rule “provides an unfair disadvantage to smaller institutions that will struggle to find the funds necessary to provide the additional \$2,000 to student-athletes.”

236. The NCAA, in a press release on December 2011 regarding the override vote that suspended the new rule, made clear the decision was made to hold down cartel members’ costs, stating that “[o]ther schools who objected to the legislation stated they can’t afford the additional expense but feel it will be necessary to find the money to pay for it in order to compete for recruits.”

237. As the above comments demonstrate, the primary motivation of NCAA institutions in repealing the stipend rule was to reduce price competition thereby holding down their labor costs. Moreover, many explicitly saw that the current cap had the effect of denying their athletes choice among a variety of financial aid packages. That is, as Boise State put it: “That tough decision [where to attend college] becomes more complicated when the student and his/her family have to factor in what school ‘offers the best deal’ versus where they may want to attend if all offers were for one year without the enticement of \$2,000,” but of course that is no different than price-fixers of consumer products arguing that by fixing prices, they make it easier for consumers to choose the car, or laundry soap, or milk products than best fits their families’ needs, independent of price.

H. Major College Football Is a Highly Commercialized Business, not a Charitable Endeavor

238. The money generated by the college sports enterprise, presided over and facilitated by the NCAA, is staggering. Some prominent examples, all relating to television contracts, are detailed herein.

239. The *Wall Street Journal* reported on January 6, 2012,²² that at least 14% of the total revenue of all of Louisiana State University (“LSU”) comes just from football, and quoted LSU chancellor Mike Martin saying

the school’s 14% mark may actually understate the football team’s financial impact. It doesn’t capture, for instance, academic donations from alumni that were largely inspired by a connection to the football team. ‘I’ve never been at a place where people love it as passionately as the people at LSU,’ said Martin, who also has worked at universities in the Big Ten and Pac-12 conferences. ‘I do believe that donors and others put their money where their mouth is.’

240. *Sports Illustrated*, in its November 5, 2012 issue, reported that NCAA President Mark Emmert, when he previously was President of NCAA Division I member Louisiana State University, “said that success in football was ‘essential for the success of Louisiana State University.’” The article continued that Emmert “is part of a system – as shown by the Pac-12’s new \$4.3 billion TV contract for football – that grows richer and less controllable by the day. ‘We have met the enemy, said former NCAA president Gene Corrigan last month, ‘and he is us.’” The article continued that “[t]he NCAA and television ‘have made college football just one notch below professional football,’ said [State of Pennsylvania Governor Tom] Corbett. ‘It’s the moneymaker. So if anybody has enhanced the importance of football to the potential of being more important than education, the NCAA is equally involved.’”

241. Flush with the proceeds from its television contracts, in June 2012, the NCAA completed the expansion of its headquarters in Indianapolis, at a cost of \$47 million.

242. With respect to the college football playoff system, soon to be implemented, *The New York Times* reported that “[i]n a 12-year, \$7.3 billion deal, ESPN gained the rights to the college football playoff, which begins after the 2014 regular season.”

243. In March 2013, ESPN.com published the below information regarding the major NCAA conference’s television deals.²³ It explains that “First-tier rights are for football and/or

²²

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052970203513604577143250385056524?mg=reno64-wsj&url=http%3A%2F%2Fonline.wsj.com%2Farticle%2FSB10001424052970203513604577143250385056524.html>.

basketball games broadcast nationally. Second-tier rights are for football and/or basketball games not selected by the first-tier rights holder. Third-tier rights are any games not selected by the first- or second-tier rights holders and rights for all sports other than football and basketball and can include digital rights. These rights are often sold on a per-school basis (not negotiated by the conference as a whole) and often go to regional networks (Comcast Sports Southeast, Raycom, or SportsNet New York, for example). They can also be reserved for networks like the Big Ten Network and the Longhorn Network.” The information is as follows:

NCAA CONFERENCE NAME	TELEVISION CONTRACT INFORMATION	DOLLAR AMOUNT
BIG 12	First and second-tier rights, ESPN/FOX, 13 years through 2024-25:	\$2.6 Billion
	Per-year average:	\$200 Million
	Per-school, per-year average:	\$20 Million
PAC 12	First and second-tier rights, ESPN/FOX, 12 years through 2023-24:	\$3 Billion
	Per-year average:	\$250 Million
	Per-school, per-year average:	\$20.8 Million

²³ http://espn.go.com/blog/playbook/dollars/post/_/id/3163/a-comparison-conference-television-deals (last visited Nov. 8, 2013).

NCAA CONFERENCE NAME	TELEVISION CONTRACT INFORMATION	DOLLAR AMOUNT
Southeastern Conference	First-tier rights, CBS, 15 years through 2023-24 (negotiations ongoing):	\$825 Million
	Second-tier rights, ESPN, 15 years through 2023-24 (negotiations ongoing):	\$2.25 Million
	Per-year average (negotiations ongoing):	\$205 Million
	Per-school, per-year average: (negotiations ongoing):	\$14.6 Million
BIG TEN	First-tier rights, ESPN, 10 years through 2016-17:	\$1 Billion
	Second-tier rights, Big Ten Network, 25 years through 2031-32:	\$2.8 Billion
	Select basketball rights: (minimum of 24 games, men's tournament semifinal and championship games), CBS, six years through 2016-17:	\$72 Million
	Football championship game, FOX, six years through 2016:	\$145 Million
	Per-year average:	\$248.2 Million
Atlantic Coast Conference	First, second and third-tier rights, ESPN, 15 years through 2026-27:	\$3.6 Billion
	Per-year average:	\$240 Million
	Per-school, per-year average:	\$17.1 Million

NCAA CONFERENCE NAME	TELEVISION CONTRACT INFORMATION	DOLLAR AMOUNT
FORMER BIG EAST	First-tier rights: ESPN, seven years for basketball (2013-2020); six years for football (2014-2020):	\$126 Million
	Second-tier rights: Basketball, BS, six years through 2012-13 (negotiations ongoing)	\$54 Million

244. Among the many beneficiaries of the largest of the television networks are coaches. For example, on November 6, 2013, *USA Today* reported on the results of its exhaustive study of the compensation packages for 126 major-college football head coaches. It reported that “[t]he average compensation package for major-college coaches is \$1.81 million, a rise of about \$170,000, or 10%, since last season – and more than 90% since 2006 ... At this rate, coaches’ compensation would more than double in less than a decade.” Accompanying the article is a database with details on each head coach (all figures here are guaranteed compensation, prior to potential bonus compensation, which is also detailed). For example, Alabama’s Nick Saban will earn \$5,545,852; Texas’ Mack Brown will earn \$5,453,750, and Arkansas’ Bret Bielman will earn \$5,158,863. Another five coaches will earn more than \$4 million. Another nine coaches will earn more than \$3 million. Another 33 will earn more than \$2 million.

245. Indeed, as astounding as these figures are, the off-season following the 2013-14 football season resulted in yet more escalation, with Alabama’s Nick Saban reportedly receiving a raise to \$7 million. That \$1.5 million raise by itself would amount to approximately \$17,000 per scholarship football player on Mr. Saban’s roster.

246. The compensation for assistant football coaches is similarly notable, particularly because under NCAA rules each team may have nine assistant coaches.²⁴ *USA Today* reported that “[t]he average major-college football assistant coach now earns roughly \$200,000, a USA TODAY

²⁴ See NCAA Bylaw 11.7.2 (“Bowl Subdivision Football. [FBS] There shall be a limit of one head coach, nine assistant coaches and four graduate assistant coaches who may be employed by an institution in bowl subdivision football.”). Bylaw 11.7.2.1.1 (“Exceptions to Number Limits”) goes on to further allow for a category of “weight (strength and conditioning) coach” that does not count against the limits above, and then further states that “[n]ot more than five weight or strength coaches are permitted to work with a football program in any capacity ...”

1 Sports analysis finds. That means NCAA Bowl Subdivision assistant coaches joined their bosses in
2 seeing their compensation for the 2012 season increase by more than 10% over last season. Head
3 coaches' pay went up a little faster than assistants' in the past year. But since USA TODAY Sports
4 began surveying assistant coaches' compensation in 2009, assistants are making about 29% more and
5 head coaches about 21% more." The article continued that "Southern California defensive
6 coordinator Monte Kiffin leads the new assistant coach survey at more than \$1.5 million, but that is
7 what he received during the 2010 calendar year, which is the most recent period for which private
8 school data are available."

9 247. The article continued that "Kiffin has said he will depart USC after this season. That
10 likely will make Clemson offensive coordinator Chad Morris the nation's highest paid assistant. He
11 is second to Kiffin and tops among public-school assistants at \$1.3 million." The article continued
12 that "Morris is making more than half of the Football Bowl Subdivision head coaches this season.
13 He also is making more than 41 entire assistant-coaching staffs." The article continued that "The
14 next four highest-paid assistants are defensive coordinators from Southeastern Conference schools:
15 Alabama's Kirby Smart (\$950,000), LSU's John Chavis (\$911,250), Auburn's Brian VanGorder
16 (\$875,000) and Georgia's Todd Grantham (\$825,000)." The article continued that "Clemson's
17 assistants – at a combined total of more than \$4.2 million, including outside income – are the
18 highest-paid group among the 102 public schools for which USA TODAY Sports could obtain 2012
19 pay information for at least eight of the nine assistants generally allowed by NCAA rules."

20 248. LSU's assistants also are collecting more than \$4 million. Seven other schools have
21 assistants totaling more than \$3 million in compensation: Texas, Alabama, Auburn, Ohio State,
22 Oregon, Florida State and Oklahoma State. Last year, six schools had \$3 million assistant-coaching
23 staffs. In 2009, there was one: Tennessee's, at \$3.3 million." The article continued that "The
24 average pay for assistants at Football Bowl Subdivision schools (not including four schools that
25 moved up to that level just this season) this season is nearly \$201,000. Eighteen assistants make at
26 least \$600,000 this season, almost quadruple the number in 2009. There were 14 last season and
27 nine in 2010. Among conferences, the Southeastern Conference has the highest average
28

1 compensation per assistant this season at more than \$315,000. The Big 12 is next at just under
2 \$290,000.”

3 249. NCAA executives themselves share in the enormous wealth created by the efforts of
4 college athletes. For example, the NCAA’s 2011 IRS tax return, the most recent publicly available
5 one, states that President Mark Emmert received annual compensation of \$1,674,095, another
6 executive \$977,531, two more above \$500,000, three more above \$400,000, eight more above
7 \$300,000, and four more well above \$200,000.

8 250. The Conference Commissioners also do very well. For example, on May 19, 2013,
9 Steve Berkowitz of *USA Today* reported that “Pacific-12 Conference commissioner Larry Scott was
10 credited with nearly \$3.1 million in compensation during the 2011 calendar year, according to the
11 conference’s latest federal tax return – and he isn’t the only highly paid member on his staff. Scott
12 received \$1.575 million in base compensation – \$575,000 more than in 2010 – and about
13 \$1.5 million in bonus and other pay ... Deputy commissioner Kevin Weiberg was credited with
14 \$563,607 in total compensation, including more than \$356,000 in base pay and the rest in bonus or
15 other pay. Weiberg’s total compensation surpassed the commissioners of the Big East Conference
16 and Conference USA. John Marinatto, the Big East’s commissioner in 2011 (he resigned in May
17 2012) was paid \$560,777 in 2011, including \$505,000 in base compensation ... That was only
18 slightly more than the total Conference USA reported for Commissioner Britton Banowsky.
19 Banowsky was credited with \$559,243 in compensation, which included \$427,153 in base pay.
20 Scott’s compensation is about \$300,000 more than that reported for Big Ten commissioner Jim
21 Delany and almost double the nearly \$1.6 million total for Southeastern Conference commissioner
22 Mike Slive.”

23 251. University Athletics Directors also do very well. On March 6, 2013, *USA Today*
24 reported that “Athletics directors at schools in the NCAA’s Football Bowl Subdivision (excluding
25 four that moved up to the Football Bowl Subdivision in 2012) make an average salary of roughly
26 \$515,000, up more than 14% since USA TODAY Sports last looked at AD compensation in October
27 2011 ... The number making \$1 million or more is up to nine from six, including Jurich. The
28 number making \$800,000 or more is up to 15 from nine ... Jurich [of the University of Louisville] is

1 the highest-paid athletics director at a public school. His complex deal, valued at a little more than
2 \$1.4 million, is nearly \$180,000 more than the next highest. “Let’s hope that continues, huh?” he
3 says.”

4 252. An article regarding the NCAA’s Pac 12 Conference, in *USA Today*, dated August 10,
5 2012, detailed the Pac 12’s launch of its own television network, and stated that “[s]ome projections
6 have the Pac-12 Networks, along with a 12-year, \$3 billion deal with Fox and ESPN, providing
7 roughly \$30 million a school annually ...” The article quotes the Pac 12’s Commissioner, Larry
8 Scott, as stating “My mandate was, how do you take this storied conference with all this success but
9 is undervalued, under-leveraged from an exposure standpoint, as well as a revenue standpoint, and
10 help kind of turn it around, build an enterprise that stays true to the values of the conference? How
11 do we blow this thing out?”

12 253. The *USA Today* article further quoted Pac 12 Enterprises President Gary Stevenson as
13 stating “We don’t think just about a television network or a digital network, but rather, we’re
14 creating a content company.”

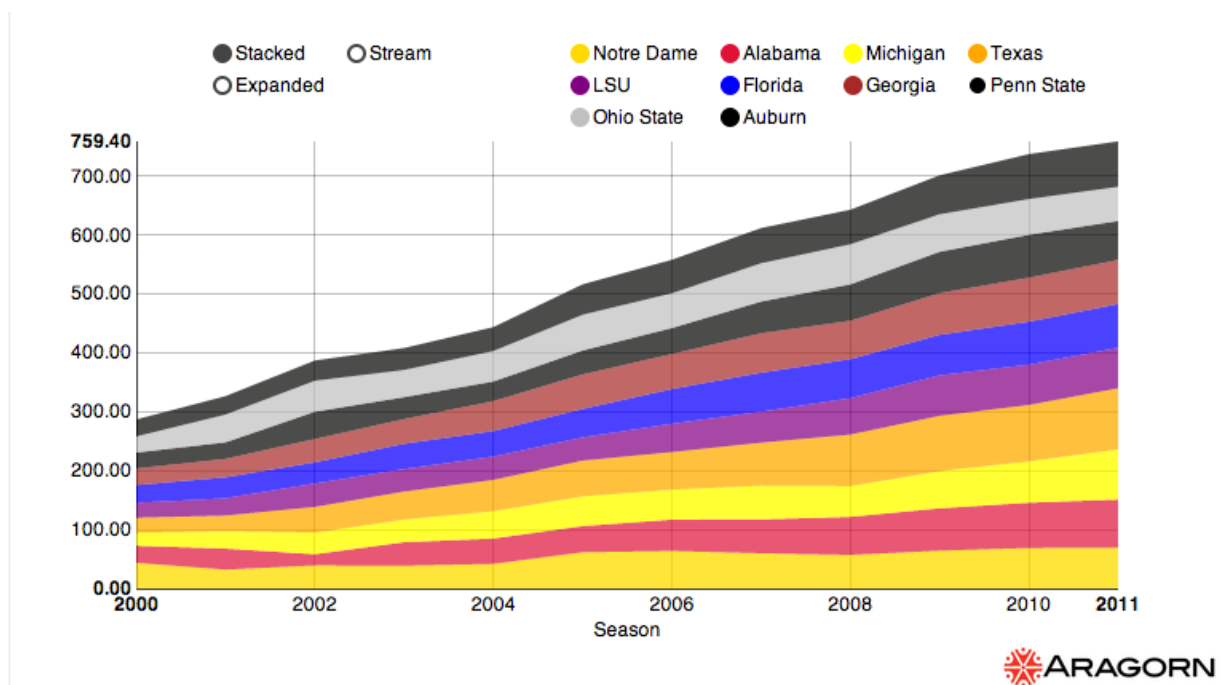
15 254. The *USA Today* article further discussed the Big 10 Conference’s Big 10 Network,
16 and quoted Jeremy Gray, Indiana University’s Assistant Athletics Director for Broadcast Services, as
17 stating that “[w]hen the [Big 10] network launched [in 2007], people wondered if it was going to be
18 a colossal failure. Now, it’s basically printing money for the schools. It’s been far more profitable
19 than anyone anticipated ... It’s simply put us at another level financially.”

20 255. The scheduling of games is done without regard to student-athlete welfare. As the
21 *Arizona Daily Star* reported in February 2013, “Pac-12 commissioner Larry Scott was in Tucson last
22 week to attend his first game at McKale Center, a dreaded 9 p.m. start to accommodate ESPN2 ...
23 Scott delivered on his promise to broadcast every Pac-12 conference game ... The give-and-take of
24 televising so many games is that it requires late tips, Wednesday games and Sunday games.
25 Sometimes, as with Saturday night’s ASU-Washington game, a 9 p.m. start in Tempe, it’s a bit
26 extreme ... ‘I don’t like the new scheduling,’ UA senior forward Solomon Hill told me in Salt Lake
27 City. ‘We’re gone way too long. I’ve got class. I’m still a student-athlete, you know. But I guess
28 they’ll do just about anything for TV.’”

256. Regarding conference realignment, and schools switching conferences, Duke basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski was quoted in the December 17, 2012, issue of *Sports Illustrated* as stating that “[w]e’re undercutting the basic foundation of intercollegiate sports – tradition. Tradition is what separates us from professional sports. With all this realignment, people are making decisions like business executives instead of like the heads of academic institutions.”

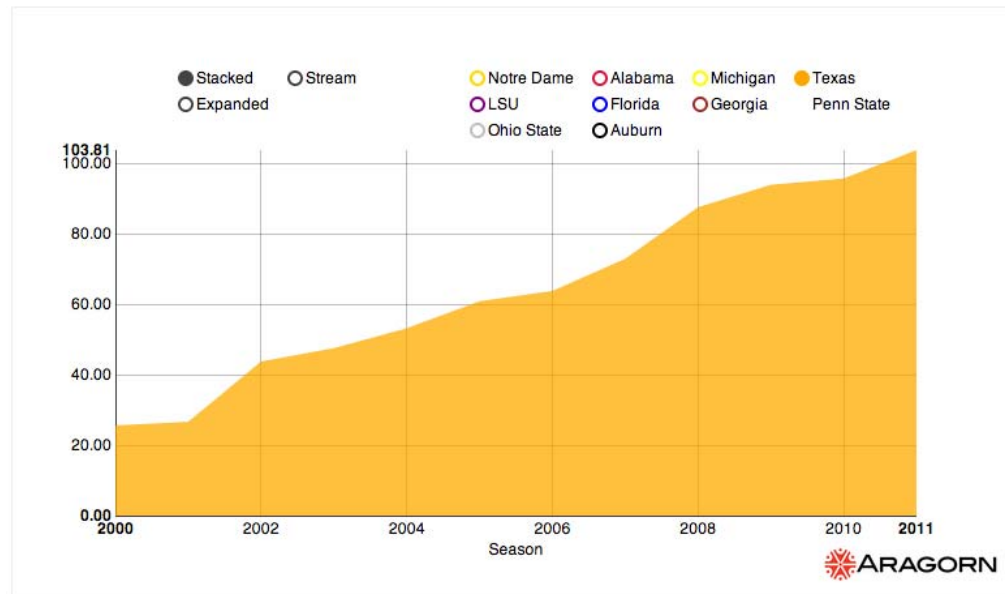
257. Mr. Krzyzewski was further quoted in the January 14-20, 2013, issue of *SportsBusiness Journal* as stating that, with regard to college sports and conference realignment, “It’s about money. People say it’s about football, and for 100 or so schools, football drives that. At our school, basketball drives money, and a lot of schools are like that. But football can drive a lot of money. So that’s why we’re doing all this? There’s no grand plan.”

258. The highly lucrative nature of college football is highlighted below. The data researchers at Aragorn Technologies compiled the numbers (see chart below) reported by universities to the U.S. Department of Education as mandated by the Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act. Here are the 10 schools that brought in the most college football money from academic years 2000-2001 through 2011-2012:



259. Notice the revenue increase in football for these schools: from less than \$300 million to more than \$759 million a decade later. That is over 150 percent growth, or about 9 percent annualized.²⁵

260. One university exemplifying the exposure football receives is the University of Texas:



261. The Longhorns expanded their football revenue from \$25.6 million in 2000-01 to \$103.8 million in 2011-12. That is a *quadruple* increase in one decade.

I. Former NCAA Executive Director, Walter Byers, Makes Clear in his Book that the Purpose of NCAA rules is to Fix Prices

262. Walter Byers served as the Executive Director of the NCAA for nearly 4 decades, from 1951 to 1987. In 1995, he wrote a remarkable book, titled “*Unsportsmanlike Conduct – Exploiting College Athletes.*” Some of the relevant passages are set forth as follows:

“[i]n the late 1940s, I was one of a small group that patched together the diverse interests of college athletics into a body politic, the modern National Collegiate Athletic Association. I then became the NCAA’s first full-time executive director and, until my retirement in 1987, its only one. I was charged with the dual mission of keeping intercollegiate sports clean while generating millions of dollars each year as income for the colleges.” (page 5).

“[D]own the years I had negotiated nearly 50 sports television contracts that piled multimillion-dollar deals one on top of another –

²⁵ <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-09-26/the-amazing-growth-in-college-football-revenues>.

1 money that funneled directly to the colleges ... As the rewards
2 multiplied, unanswered contradictions quickly followed.” (page 9).

3 “Today, the NCAA Presidents Commission is preoccupied with
4 tightening a few loose bolts in a worn machine, firmly committed to
5 the neoplatation belief that the enormous proceeds from college
6 games belong to the overseers (the administrators) and supervisors
7 (coaches). The plantation workers performing in the arena may
8 receive only those benefits authorized by the overseers. This system is
9 so biased against human nature and simple fairness in light of today’s
10 high-dollar, commercialized marketplace that the ever increasing
11 number of primary and secondary NCAA infractions cases of the
12 1990s emerge in the current environment as mostly an indictment of
13 the system itself.” (page 2-3).

14 “In an unpublicized written memo to the top NCAA management
15 group [in 1985], I said full-need student-athletes should be given
16 additional financial assistance over the permitted grant-in-aid. The
17 memo said: ‘I earnestly hope that the membership does not take a
18 righteous stand in favor of old-time amateur principles for the athlete,
19 but modern-day commercial involvement for coaches and institutions,
20 and somehow expect a relatively small NCAA enforcement crew to
21 keep the situation clean.’ ... All I accomplished with those efforts was
22 a hardening of the NCAA position on ‘amateurism.’ Players must be
23 shielded from exploitation and the taint of commercial gold, the
24 NCAA officially reiterated in the early 1990s, and it then confirmed
25 that the gold belonged to the coaches and the colleges.” (page 13).

26 “As the enormous financial rewards for winning expanded during the
27 1960s and multiplied in the 1970s and 1980s, NCAA enforcement
28 never kept pace and the effectiveness of conference commissioners as
regulators and enforcers became virtually non-existent. Periodic
countertrends through the years have caused endless debates,
noteworthy for maximum verbiage and minimum results.” (page 40).

“[In the early 1950s, opponents of grants-in-aid not tied to financial
need] labeled the emerging grant-in-aid system ‘pay for play.’ These
arguments became muted, however, as more and more colleges went to
grant-in-aid funding to meet the competition. It was then that they
came face to face with a serious, external threat that prompted most of
the colleges to unite and insist with one voice that, grant-in-aid or not,
college sports still were only for ‘amateurs.’ That threat was the
dreaded notion that NCAA athletes could be identified as *employees* by
state industrial commission and the courts.” (page 69).

“[In response to the workers’ compensation concern], We crafted the
term *student-athlete*, and soon it was embedded in all NCAA rules and
interpretations as a mandated substitute for such words as players and
athletes. We told college publicists to speak of ‘college teams,’ not
football or basketball ‘clubs,’ a word common to the pros.” (page 69).

“[i]n 1956, the college, acting through the NCAA in the name of
‘amateurism,’ installed their own pay system called the athletics grant-
in-aid or athletics ‘scholarship.’” (page 65).

1 “[In 1957, the NCAA defined allowable grant-in-aid expenses] “as
2 tuition, fees, room and board, books, and \$15 per month for nine
3 months for laundry money. This compensation package represented an
4 arbitrary but uniquely lucrative allowance at the time, all dedicated to
5 amateurism. The rationale was that if a player received only expenses,
6 even though it was more than other students received, he was not being
7 paid to perform.”

8 “The accounting variables in college athletics make it difficult if not
9 impossible to know whether a big-time sport pays for itself, much less
10 whether it generates net receipts to finance the deficit sports ... Do *any*
11 major sports programs make money for their universities? Sure, but
12 the trick is to overspend and feed the myth that even the industry’s
13 plutocrats teeter on insolvency.” (pages 221-22).

14 “The original grant-in-aid concept of the mid-1950s had allowed for
15 \$15 per month for laundry money. The rule was expanded in time to
16 include course-related supplies. These extra benefits were eliminated
17 by subsequent NCAA economy actions, and this irritated the bigger
18 schools almost to the same degree as the ban on travel uniforms.
19 Repeated efforts were mounted to reestablish a monthly cash stipend,
20 many arguing that it should be \$50. These initiatives were averted ...”
21 (page 236).

22 “College athletics reform movements spanning almost 90 years have
23 been remarkably consistent. They never reformed much of anything.
24 For nearly 40 of those years, I was part of those visionary efforts that
25 came to naught. We seemed to be constantly chasing the horse after it
26 had escaped from the barn.” (page 337).

27 “Spectators following the college ‘reform’ game need a scorecard to
28 keep track of the many measures that have carried the promise of
change. My tally sheet shows only a few major engagements, and
even in these the changes were only temporary.” (page 337).

“[t]he Olympics, bellwether of amateurism for half a century, now
permits athletes to escrow big dollars and still compete for the gold.
NBA greats form the nucleus of the U.S. Olympic basketball team.
The colleges, meanwhile, have expanded their control of athletes in the
name of amateurism – a modern-day misnomer for economic tyranny.
These regulations, like procrustean laws, require all athletes to
conform.” (page 347).

“Pleading hard times and a desperate need for money is standard
disinformation pumped out by the biggest colleges.” (page 357).

“I believe the record now clearly shows the major hope for reform lies
outside the collegiate structure. What the colleges will not do
voluntarily should be done for them.” (page 369).

“Collegiate amateurism is not a moral issue; it is an economic
camouflage for monopoly practice.” (page 376).

“[P]rotecting young people from commercial evils is a transparent
excuse for monopoly operations that benefit others. The colleges do

1 take part in trusts (i.e., groups in which control of the members is
2 vested in a single entity), combinations (as association of firms for a
3 commercial purpose), and monopoly practices (exclusive control of a
4 commodity or service)." (page 388).

5 "Prosecutors and the courts, with the support of the public, should use
6 antitrust laws to break up the collegiate cartel . . ." (page 388).

7 "[The NCAA's 512 pages of] rules, based on a turn-of-the-century
8 theory of amateurism, enforce a modern economic order. Today's
9 educational reformers seem increasingly content to engage in a
10 pedantic tautology. Players may not receive money, except what we
11 give them, because they must remain amateurs to be eligible under our
12 rules. They are amateurs if are rules say they are. Thus, they may only
13 receive what our rules permit." (page 390).

14 "[T]he college player cannot sell his own feet (the coach does that) [via
15 shoe endorsement deals] nor can he sell his own name (the college will
16 do that). This is the plantation mentality resurrected and blessed by
17 today's campus executives." (page 391).

18 "A meeting among business competitors to harmonize their bids on a
19 contract is usually called a conspiracy. More than 900 members
20 agreeing by contract through the NCAA to issue common contracts to
21 young people recruited to play on various sports teams seems to fit that
22 niche." (page 391).

23 "Since the same college people who harvest the returns set the rules,
24 issue the interpretations, rule on athletes' eligibility, and decide how
25 the annual profits should be divided, I believe state and federal
26 challenges to these artificial restraints will be necessary." (page 392).

27 **J. Reality of College-Athlete Life**

28 263. There is a vast amount of information available that documents the realities of
College-Athlete life in the Division I revenue producing sports, *i.e.*, men's basketball and football.
Those athletes typically do not enjoy an academic experience anything like that of "regular"
students. Such athletes frequently are required by the university to devote more than 40 hours a
week to their sports, can have enormous travel demands placed upon them, are often spoon-fed a
curriculum of athlete-friendly classes that are nothing like those experienced by the general student
population, and their graduation rates frequently are abysmal.

264. Two Michigan State University law professors, Robert A. McCormick and Amy
Christian McCormick, recently conducted a study regarding Division I athletes in the revenue
generating sports, and concluded that those athletes' "daily burdens and obligations not only meet

1 the legal standard of employee, but far exceed the burdens and obligations of most university
2 employees.”

3 265. After they spend their college years juggling athletic and academic requirements,
4 many college athletes wind up substantially in debt because their scholarships did not fully cover the
5 basic necessities of life. A recent study illustrated that so-called “full scholarships” can leave college
6 athletes with as much as \$30,000 in normal student expenses uncovered over the course of their
7 collegiate athletic careers.

8 266. College athletes who participate in Division I Football Bowl Subdivision football
9 often spend 30-60 hours per week in practice, team meetings, travel and official games during the
10 season, and many hours per week in athletics-related activities even during the off season. During
11 the most recent NCAA annual meeting in San Diego, NCAA President Mark Emmert stated “... in
12 Division 1 where, you know, student-athletes in some sports are putting in 30-to-40 hours a week,
13 well that’s a full time, uh, commitment,”²⁶ Although NCAA rules theoretically restrict the time
14 college athletes may spend on their sport to 20 hours per week, the NCAA rules contain a large
15 loophole for so-called “voluntary” workouts that do not count toward the limit and which college
16 athletes understand to be mandatory in the eyes of their coaches.

17 267. According to the *Daily Northwestern* on February 19, 2014, at the recent National
18 Labor Relations Board hearing in Chicago, Northwestern’s associate athletic director of compliance
19 Brian Baptiste indicated that NCAA rules limiting mandatory participation to 20 hours contain
20 loopholes so no matter how long an away game takes, including travel to and from the game, NCAA
21 rules mandate that it counts as only 3 hours towards the official limit of 20.

22 In its cross-examination of Baptiste, CAPA focused on the definition
23 of “countable athletics-related activities,” which dictates which hours
24 count toward the NCAA weekly maximum of 20. A day after former
25 NU quarterback Kain Colter testified players spend as many as 40-50
26 hours a week on football during the season, Baptiste explained that all

27 ²⁶ See it on video here, where he ALMOST says “job” before changing it to “commitment”
28 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=02aKLJzsV2k&feature=player_detailpage#t=2254.

game-day activities count as only three hours, regardless of how much time was actually preparing for and playing the game.²⁷

The *Chicago Sun-Times* from the same day explained:

Meanwhile, an university athletics official testified that football players cannot practice for a game for more than 20 hours a week during the season under NCAA rules, but he acknowledged that players exceed those hours by simply traveling to games.

“No one is forcing him to get on the bus” or even to play if the player doesn’t want to, said Brian Baptiste, the university’s associate athletic director for compliance. “We’re not mandating someone to be a student athlete. You have the ability to withdraw from the program.”²⁸

The 20-hour limit, called Countable Athletically Related Activity, or CARA, omits hours in travel, warm-ups, extra practices and other activities that the rules deem voluntary, Baptiste said.

268. Because of the tremendous time commitment required to participate in major college sports, as well as NCAA and institutional rules in force during portions of the Class Period that precluded college athletes from working part-time jobs during the school year, college athletes generally are unable to earn additional money from part-time jobs during the school year.

269. The overwhelming majority of players do not turn professional, and those that do turn professional typically do not remain professionals for very long. Those that do become professionals often emerge from universities totally unprepared to manage their finances, and thus frequently fall prey to financial predators, as a recent expose in *Sports Illustrated* magazine documented.

270. There is no question that the grant-in-aid cap is in effect an agreement to fix wages.

271. Any empirical observation of student-athletes’ daily activities shows that student-athletes are closely akin in practice to traditional workers.²⁹ For example, “a self-study performed by the NCAA in 2011” found that “Division I [college] football players [devoted] an average of 43.3 hours per week to their sport” – more time than they spent on academic activities, and more than a

²⁷ <http://dailynorthwestern.com/2014/02/19/sports/sports-economist-northwestern-compliance-official-testify-on-second-day-of-nlrh-hearing/>.

²⁸ <http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/25696146-418/nu-football-union-would-struggle-because-of-ncaa-rules-economist.html>.

²⁹ See generally Robert A. McCormick & Amy Christian McCormick, *The Myth of the Student-Athlete: The College Athlete As Employee*, 81 WASH. L. REV. 71, 129 (2006) (highlighting the argument made by some that student-athletes cannot be victims of wage fixing because they are not employees).

1 typical U.S. worker spends on his profession. In addition, student-athletes seem to meet the Internal
 2 Revenue Service's multifactor test for employment because NCAA coaching staffs exercise year-
 3 round behavioral controls over student-athletes and impose strict limits on their outside financial
 4 activities. Furthermore, in the context of workers' compensation law, at least one court has issued an
 5 award to a student-athlete – thus treating him as a *de facto* employee.

6 272. All of these factors combine to significantly rebut the longstanding legal fiction
 7 advanced by the NCAA that student-athletes are foremost students and not workers. Indeed, there is
 8 even some evidence that this legal fiction was created by the NCAA for the specific purpose of
 9 trying to avoid antitrust scrutiny.³⁰ Thus, it would be the most bizarre of loopholes to allow the
 10 NCAA to evade antitrust scrutiny simply by applying a dubious label to their business practices.³¹

11 **K. Defendants' Likely Affirmative Defenses Do Not Apply**

12 273. The NCAA in other antitrust litigation has repeatedly articulated various affirmative
 13 defenses that Defendants are likely to reflexively again assert in the present case. These alleged
 14 defenses, if asserted in the present litigation, lack adequate factual and legal support, and do not
 15 excuse Defendants' violation of the Sherman Act and other laws.

16 **1. Academic consensus that amateurism is a façade.**

17 There exists a broad consensus among economists and professors of sports management that
 18 "amateurism" as the NCAA defines it, is really just a façade to cover up what amounts to the
 19 monopolization of the industry via a cartel, and collective price-fixing. This literature includes the
 20 popular press, published academic articles, and textbooks:

21 (a) Barro, Robert J., "The Best Little Monopoly in America," BusinessWeek,
 22 December 9, 2002

23 "Finally, we come to the NCAA, which has successfully suppressed
 24 financial competition in college sports. The NCAA is impressive
 25 partly because its limitations on scholarships and other payments to
 athletes boost the profitability of college sports programs. But even

26 ³⁰ See McCormick & McCormick, *supra* n.71, at 74 (arguing that the NCAA self-coined the term
 27 "student-athlete" to perpetuate a myth of amateurism and "obtain the astonishing pecuniary gain and
 related benefits of the athletes' talents, time, and energy").

28 ³¹ See generally *Am. Needle, Inc. v. NFL*, 130 S. Ct. 2201, 2213 (2010) ("An ongoing § 1
 violation cannot evade § 1 scrutiny simply by giving the ongoing violation a name and label.").

more impressive is the NCAA's ability to maintain the moral high ground... So given this great balancing act, the NCAA is the clear choice for best monopoly in America."

- (b) [Nobel Prize Winner] Becker, Gary, "The NCAA as a Powerful Cartel," The Becker-Posner Blog, April 3, 2011.

"It is impossible for an outsider to look at these rules without concluding that their main aim is to make the NCAA an effective cartel that severely constrains competition among schools for players."

- (c) Becker, Gary "The NCAA: A Cartel in Sheepskin Clothing," Business Week, September 14, 1987. (<http://www.geocities.ws/jfletcherman/beckerncaacartel.html>)

"Economists disagree about many things, but they strongly agree that cartels raise prices, lower outputs, and are bad for society. The effect on prices and output of explicit cartels like OPEC are direct and obvious. The harmful effects of cartels that hide behind the smokescreen of good intentions are more difficult to detect, especially when nonprofit institutions are involved. The NCAA is a prime example of such a cartel. It is time that all the NCAA's restrictions on competition for athletes and sports revenues be declared an unlawful conspiracy in violation of the antitrust laws."

- (d) Humphreys, Brad R. and Jane E. Ruseski, "Monitoring Cartel Behavior and Stability: Evidence from NCAA Football," Southern Economic Journal, Volume 75, Number 3, 2001, pp. 1-20.

"Most economists view the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) as a cartel operating as a monoposonist in the market for athletic recruits." (p. 1)

- (e) Kahn, Lawrence M., "Markets: Cartel Behavior and Amateurism in College Sports," Journal of Economic Perspectives, Vol. 21, 2007, pp. 209-226.

"Most economists who have studied the NCAA view it as a cartel that attempts to produce rents, both by limiting payments for inputs such as player compensation and by limiting output (for example, Alchian and Allen, 1972; Becker, 1987; Barro, 2002)." (p. 210)

...

"Computations such as these offer evidence that the NCAA does indeed use its cartel power to pay top athletes less than their market value (Fleisher, Goff, and Tollison, 1992; Zimbalist, 1999)." (p. 212)

- (f) Koch, James V., "A Troubled Cartel: The NCAA," Law and Contemporary Problems, Vol. 38 (Winter/Spring), 1973, pp. 135-147.

“Despite the claims of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) that it is a champion of amateur athletics and physical fitness in colleges and universities, the NCAA is in fact a business cartel composed of university-firms which have varying desires to restrict competition and maximize profits in the area of intercollegiate athletics.” (p. 135)

- (g) Koch, James V., “Intercollegiate Athletics: An Economic Explanation,” Social Science Quarterly, Vol. 64, No. 2, June 1983, pp. 360-374.

“The Foundation Argument: The NCAA as a Cartel:

... The NCAA is a cartel because it: (a) sets the maximum price that can be paid for intercollegiate athletes; (b) regulates the quantity of athletes that can be purchased in a given time period; (c) regulates the duration and intensity of usage of those athletes; (d) on occasion fixes the price at which sports outputs can be sold; (e) purports to control the property rights to activities such as the televising of intercollegiate football; (f) periodically informs cartel members about transactions, costs, market conditions, and sales techniques (Raiborn, 1982); (g) occasionally pools and distributes portions of the cartel’s profits; and (h) polices the behavior of its members and levies penalties against those members of the cartel who are deemed to be in violation of cartel rules and regulations.” (p. 361)

- (h) Lazaroff, Daniel E., “The NCAA in Its Second Century: Defender of Amateurism or Antitrust Recidivist?” Oregon Law Review, Vol. 86, No. 2, 2007, pp. 329-371.

“Commentators have explained that while the ‘original mission’ of the NCAA ‘focused on providing public goods’ by reducing violence and standardizing play, the NCAA ‘quickly turned its attention from standardizing rules to instituting the outlines of a cartel.’” (p. 331)

- (i) Posner, Richard, “Monopsony in College Athletics,” The Becker-Posner Blog, April 3, 2011. (<http://www.becker-posner-blog.com/2011/04/monopsony-in-college-athleticsposner.html>)

“The National Collegiate Athletic Association behaves monopsonistically in forbidding its member colleges and universities to pay its athletes. Although cartels, including monopsonistic ones, are generally deemed to be illegal per se under American antitrust law, the NCAA’s monopsonistic behavior has thus far not been successfully challenged.”

- (j) [Former Chief FTC Economist] Tollison, Robert D., “Understanding the Antitrust Economics of Sports Leagues,” Antitrust, Spring 2000, pp. 21 – 24.

“Commonly, the NCAA is viewed as a benign administrator of the rules of college athletics. This perspective recognizes many of the problems and perverse outcomes that result from NCAA rules and

actions; yet these outcomes are usually attributed to the short-sightedness, ignorance, or greed of certain elements within the organization. In contrast, economists generally view the NCAA as a cartel. They hold this view because the NCAA has historically devised rules to restrict output (the number of games televised) and to restrict competition for inputs (student-athletes). Economists have focused primarily on the input market, where monopsonistic aspects of NCAA behavior are evident. NCAA rules concerning recruiting and financial aid are seen as transferring rewards from players to schools and coaches, and the rules are seen as an expression of an agreement among buyers to restrict competition for inputs. These points are well established in the literature, and indeed, it could be observed that the NCAA has obtained much more durable returns on its cartel behavior than other, more notable cartels such as OPEC.” (p 22)

2. “Amateur College Athletics,” “Amateur College Football,” and “Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Football” all will continue to exist.

274. The NCAA has asserted in another antitrust litigation an alleged affirmative defense that “the NCAA’s financial aid, eligibility, and amateurism bylaws and rules promote the creation and enhancement of amateur college athletics as ‘products’ or activities that are distinct from professional and other amateur athletics. The NCAA’s financial aid rules accordingly allow the creation and maintenance of a ‘product’ – amateur college athletics – that would otherwise not exist, and are accordingly procompetitive.”

275. Plaintiff here does not seek *any* relief that significantly impacts an alleged product of “amateur college athletics.” For example, even within the NCAA’s structure, hundreds of college football teams exist which compete in collegiate football *outside* of the Division I Football Bowl Subdivision. Specifically, as of the end of the 2012 Season, 124 schools compete in collegiate football within the NCAA’s Division I Football Championship Subdivision, 162 schools compete in collegiate football in the NCAA’s Division II, and 241 schools compete in collegiate football in the NCAA’s Division III.³² “Amateur college football,” even as restrictively defined by the NCAA, will continue to exist, regardless of the outcome of the present litigation.

³² Source : NCAA Football Statistics (Records through 2012 Season).
 Division I Football Championship Subdivision: 124
 (http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/stats/football_records/2013/FCS.pdf).
 Division II Football: 162 (http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/stats/football_records/2013/D2.pdf).
 Division III Football: 241 (http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/stats/football_records/2013/D3.pdf).

276. Aside from those schools under the NCAA's preview, there also exist other non-major football associations producing non-major but nonetheless amateur college football. None would be threatened by this ruling. These include the NAIA, the NJCAA, the USCAA, the ACCA, the NWAACC, and the CCCAA.

277. Moreover, Division I Football Bowl Subdivision collegiate football will continue to exist. Numerous leading, mainstream publications have published detailed analyses calling for significant change in the artificial financial aid restraints presently imposed on collegiate athletes. None of them have suggested that such changes would eliminate Division I Football Bowl Subdivision collegiate football. As one such example, *BusinessWeek* published an article on January 2, 2014 explaining that:

Hundreds of thousands of U.S. businesses figure out how much to pay workers without going broke; more to the point, college presidents seem perfectly capable of running institutions with 9- or even 10-figure budgets. They can handle market competition when it comes to recruiting engineering professors, but they're somehow incapable of making rational decisions when the recruits in question are athletes? If the NCAA is right and its members really are broke, the market rate for athletes isn't likely to rise very much. But then that makes you wonder why they are fighting so hard to prevent that outcome in the first place.³³

As a second of numerous examples, on September 16, 2013, *Time* magazine featured a cover story titled "It's Time to Pay College Athletes." It included the following:

According to a 2012 study from Oxford Economics, a global research firm, a season's worth of Texas A&M home football games generate \$86 million in business for Brazos County, where A&M is located.

...

How We Got Here

The athlete is the most available publicity material the college has. A great scientific discovery will make good press material for a few days, but nothing to compare to that of the performance of a first-class athlete.

No statement better explains why American colleges are so invested in modern-day sports--and why college athletes have a right to a paycheck. It was written in 1929, part of a Carnegie Foundation study

³³ <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2014-01-02/how-much-should-college-athletes-get-paid>.

on American college athletics. A college, said the authors, “wants students, it wants popularity, and above all it wants money and always more money.”

...

Today college football is a booming profit center for many institutions at the top of Division 1, the highest level of NCAA sports, and is a growing portion of the regional economy in college towns like Boise, Idaho; State College, Pa.; College Station; and South Bend, Ind. According to the most recent federal data, the University of Texas football team netted a profit of \$77.9 million in 2011--12, on \$103.8 million in revenue. Michigan made \$61.6 million from football, on \$85.2 million in revenue. Any business would kill for those profit margins.

...

A Modest Proposal

The time is right to give schools the option to share their rising sports income with college athletes. Not every school would--or could--participate. Only the 60 or so schools in the power conferences, which have the football and basketball revenues to support such payments, would likely even consider such an option. With conferences and schools set to see record television payouts for the next decade and beyond, the idea of paying players is no longer just fodder for academic debate. It's an ethical imperative.

Schools could either pay players whatever schools want in a free market, or salaries could be subject to regulation. In reality, universities probably aren't going to go from \$0 in compensation, where they are now, to allowing an unlimited amount. Salary caps exist in the NBA and NFL; they're fair game for college sports too.

...

College sports are already impure; paying players can't make things much worse. At the highest levels, the games are mass entertainment.

...

Most important, player payments would force schools to operate in an environment in which they're honest with themselves. Sports are a big business, and we value the exposure and revenue that it brings to our schools. But let's stop saying one thing--"we care for our student-athletes"--while doing another: preventing them from benefiting monetarily. "Living a lie," says Richard Southall, director of the College Sport Research Institute at the University of South Carolina, "is hard to do."

Within higher ed, there's clearly momentum to give athletes at least a little more than what they're getting now. "I think there is change likely on the horizon," says Nebraska chancellor Harvey Perlman, who is chairman of the Bowl Championship Series oversight committee.

1 The NCAA membership has stalled a plan giving schools the option to
2 offer a \$2,000 stipend to cover expenses beyond tuition, room and
3 board, books and fees. Many schools at the lower levels of Division 1
4 said they couldn't afford it.

5 But at this point, the power football conferences seem determined to
6 offer at least some kind of extra. "I think we will find a way to provide
7 all scholarship student-athletes with the full cost-of-attendance
8 scholarship," says Perlman. As for anything above that, don't expect
9 radical change, but universities' leaders are at least discussing it. "I
10 don't think there's any doubt about that," says Martin, the Colorado
11 State chancellor who was recently chancellor at LSU.

12 . . .

13 The U.S. has enjoyed a long, deep love affair with college sports. It's
14 about time we finally paid for it.

15 278. A prime, analogous example of a change in athlete compensation practices not
16 negatively impacting sports fans' enjoyment of a product is in regards to the Olympics. On July 25,
17 2012, *The Atlantic* published a detailed article titled "The Olympics Show Why College Sports
18 Should Give Up on Amateurism." Therein, the author Patrick Hruby wrote:

19 Things were falling apart. The system would not hold. For decades, it
20 had clung to the amateur ideal, enforced by a watchful governing body:
21 Athletes could not receive material gain, directly or indirectly, for
22 playing sports.

23 Only the cash came anyway, in drips and drabs and great big gushers,
24 mostly under the table, the public's insatiable demand for spectacle
25 rushing to meet a limited supply of talented performers. Some decried
26 the resulting corruption and hypocrisy; others lambasted the unfairness
27 of it all. Prominent voices demanded wholesale change. Still,
28 amateurism's defenders held fast, with one telling *Sports Illustrated*
that "if we water down the rules now, the [sport] will be destroyed
within eight years."

The above does not describe the National Collegiate Athletic
Association and contemporary big-time college sports.

The year was 1960. The subject was the Olympics. Once upon a time,
the Games were an amateur affair, as committed to no-pay-for-play –
no salaries, no endorsements – as today's NCAA. Of course, that was
before former International Olympic Committee head Juan Antonio
Samaranch pushed for the inclusion of professional athletes. And
before basketball's 1992 Dream Team. And before a bevy of pros in
everything from track and field to table tennis – in short, the world's
best – flooded the Games.

Yet on the way to a grubby Gomorra of unfettered sports commerce, a
funny thing happened: The watered-down Olympics didn't exactly
sink to the bottom of the Marianas Trench.

“Dead in eight years?” said Olympic historian Bill Mallon, who has written dozens of books about the Games, in a recent interview. “If anything, the Olympics are more popular and powerful than ever. It has been decades since they opened up the Games to the professionals, and they’re still going strong.”

279. Similarly, just as artificial restraints on the compensation of Olympic athletes did not eliminate the Olympics, changes to the artificial restraints on financial aid for Division I Football Bowl Subdivision football players will not eliminate Division I Football Bowl Subdivision football, nor “amateur college football,” nor “amateur athletics.”

3. Competitive balance will not be impacted.

280. The NCAA has elsewhere asserted, as an alleged affirmative defense, that “[i]n addition to enabling the creation of amateur college sports, the NCAA rules promote the creation and maintenance of several unique features of NCAA college athletics, including: They promote competitive balance between and among NCAA member institutions in the various sports in which they compete” In actuality, competitive balance does not even presently exist across all NCAA member institutions. This Complaint cites numerous admissions by Defendants and others to that effect. As Defendant Pac 12 Commissioner Larry Scott stated in 2011, “I don’t think there is an even playing field,” Scott said. “There’s not an even playing field in TV exposure. There’s not an even playing field in coaches and coaches’ salaries. There’s not an even playing field in stadiums.”

281. There exists a broad consensus among economists and professors of sports management that while competitive balance may provide important pro-competitive benefits, the NCAA rules in suit with respect to the fixing of prices offered to athletes across Division I do not contribute to competitive balance and may, in fact, harm it. This literature includes published academic articles and textbooks, such as

a. Peach, Jim (2007)

He found that 50% of the Final Four teams from 1950-2006 were from 13 schools. 50% of the top 8 finishes in the AP final poll in college football (from 1950-2005) were from 12 schools. He concludes that there is not much competitive balance in the NCAA. Specifically, Peach writes:

By any reasonable standard, the NCAA has failed in its efforts to improve competitive balance in football.

1 Peach concludes (with emphasis added) that:

2 ... Third, there is little evidence that the NCAA rules and regulations
3 have promoted competitive balance in college athletics and no a priori
4 reason to think that eliminating the rules would change the competitive
5 balance situation. Would such price competition alter the distribution
6 of playing talent among academic institutions? No one knows for
7 certain, but it is worth noting that the power schools in football were
8 the power schools before the imposition of NCAA regulations. ...
**There is also the possibility that eliminating the NCAA eligibility
and financial restrictions might increase competitive balance,
particularly in football.** In an unrestricted system, wages for first-
team student athletes at nonpower schools might be higher than wages
for second or third team talent at the power schools. So, it is possible
that the distribution of student athlete talent could change.

9 Peach then adds:

10 Fourth, colleges and universities could save a great deal of money. The
11 money cost of participating in the NCAA and in complying with its
12 many regulations is a large but unknown figure. University delegations
13 to NCAA meetings consist of at least an Athletic Director, a university
14 president (since 1997), a faculty representative, and others. In addition,
there is the on-going process and associated costs of enforcement and
compliance on campus. Even on a relatively small campus, this can
involve full-time staff members and faculty oversight committees.

15 Fifth, university administrators would be forced to make hard decisions
16 instead of relying on the protective shield of NCAA regulations. What
17 hard decisions? Universities would be forced to establish their own
18 academic eligibility requirements for student athletes. Sixth, if the
NCAA were to disappear there would be no apparent adverse
consequences for women's sports. After all, it was Title IX and not the
NCAA that provided the incentive for academic institutions to devote
more resources to women's sports.

19 \Seventh, TV revenues might increase. TV revenue, especially for
20 football, is a complex issue. The NCAA has never fully come to grips
21 with this issue involving laws such as the Sports Broadcasting Act of
1961, conferences, bowl-games, conferences, and the distribution of
revenues among universities. That is why we have the BCS games.

22 Eighth, there is no reason to expect that attendance at major sporting
23 events would decline. Fans do not attend games or watch them on TV
24 to see the NCAA in action. It might be fun, however, to broadcast the
annual convention of the NCAA so that their decisions were truly
public.

25 Is the NCAA necessary? When an institution fails to perform basic
26 functions, it may be time to alter that institution. Who could change or
27 abolish the NCAA? The universities could do so. The universities are
28 the NCAA. Many others have suggested various reforms for the
NCAA (Fort, 2003; Zimbalist, 1999). What is being suggested here
goes beyond reform of the NCAA. The NCAA serves no useful
purpose and should be abolished.

b. Fort (Sports Economics 2nd edition, 2005, pp. 492-495)

“Just as with pro leagues, a cursory analysis reveals that none of the restrictions on players actually have anything to do with competitive imbalance. Instead, they transfer value produced by players away from the players and toward the athletic department.” (p. 492)

...

“Interestingly, many believe that these recruiting restrictions create a level playing field that enables poorer athletic departments to compete with richer ones for talent. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Instead, these restrictions entrench power at departments at the top end of the winning percent distribution.” (p. 495)

c. Eckard (1998)

“The NCAA regulates college football player recruiting, eligibility, and compensation. The economic theory of cartels suggests that one consequence may be reduced competitive balance. The enforced restrictions inhibit weak teams from improving, and protect strong teams from competition. A “stratification” is implied which should be evident over time as less “churning” in national rankings and conference standings, and fewer schools achieving national prominence. I test this general hypothesis by comparing various competitive balance measures for about 25 years before and after NCAA enforcement began in 1952. The hypothesis is supported by all measures at both the national and conference levels.” (p. 347)

d. Depken and Wilson (2004a)

“We find that over time, Division 1-A football has become less balanced...” Using the measure most preferred by the authors, “almost all of the institutional changes modeled here have had a negative impact on competitive balance, supporting the special interest-pressure group hypothesis.” (p. 209)

...

“NCAA decisions have little impact on the competitiveness of NCAA football

e. Depken and Wilson (2004b)

“Our pooled results do support the claim that NCAA enforcement may have the unintended consequence of reducing competitive balance...”

f. Quirk (2004)

“...[I]n almost all of the conferences, even including the Ivy League, there have been one or more teams that have had records of winning championships significantly different from the equal playing strengths ideal.” (p. 72).

1 **4. Emmert Statements regarding inter-conference competition (other than with**
 2 **respect to the alleged collusion) and the lack of competitive balance within**
 3 **Division I.**

3 282. NCAA President Mark Emmert:

4 a. “Emmert said he doesn’t blame the conferences for taking all that’s offered.
 5 But he’s the president of all NCAA schools, not just those at the top of the football pyramid. ‘There
 6 are a variety of dynamics out there that will continue to drive the gap between the highest resource
 7 schools and the lowest for the foreseeable future,’ Emmert said. ‘I don’t see that trend abating at
 8 all.’³⁴

9 b. “If students have the opportunity to go to that dominant athletic program,
 10 they’re going to go.”³⁵

11 c. “I don’t think any of the Butler kids were recruited by, you know, by
 12 Kansas.”³⁶

13 d. “So if you’ve got a gap between \$40,000 and \$150,000, (then) \$2,000 isn’t
 14 going to make much of a difference.”³⁷

15 e. “As for the continued separation of the haves and the have nots, that’s
 16 economics, Emmert said. ‘We’ve always had that. The financial differences have always been
 17 there. Some universities have huge competitive advantages [because] of history and culture and
 18 decisions that the university made over decades that are in some ways insurmountable and you
 19 wouldn’t want to take them away. ... I’m sure Alabama under Bear Bryant had these stunning
 20 competitive advantages ... Now to say that the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and Alabama have
 21
 22
 23

24 ³⁴ <http://www.kansas.com/2012/07/07/2401039/a-look-at-athletic-department.html>.

25 ³⁵ http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes.

26 ³⁶ http://espn.go.com/college-sports/story/_/id/7303903/ncaa-president-mark-emmert-makes-rulebook-changes-offers-stipends-athletes.

27 ³⁷ <http://www.chron.com/sports/college/article/NCAA-s-Emmert-says-legislation-won-t-impact-gap-2251444.php>.
 28

1 huge competitive disadvantages it didn't look much different 40 years ago. It reinforces some of
 2 those inherent advantages some of those universities have had for a century.”³⁸

3 **5. Education will remain a condition of athlete eligibility.**

4 283. The NCAA, in other litigation, has asserted as an alleged affirmative defense that its
 5 financial aid rules “help to insure that student-athletes are integrated into the student body as a whole
 6 and that education remains an important component of the student-athlete experience.” This alleged
 7 affirmative defense, if asserted in the present litigation, is a non-starter. To be clear, in no sense does
 8 any of the relief sought by Plaintiff herein challenge any rules or regulations that require Class
 9 members to be students in good standing at their respective academic institutions.

10 **VI. INTERSTATE TRADE AND COMMERCE**

11 284. The business activities of Defendants that are the subject of this action were and are
 12 within the flow of, and substantially affected and affect, interstate trade and commerce.

13 285. During the Class Period, Defendants transacted business in multiple states in a
 14 continuous and uninterrupted flow of interstate commerce throughout the United States.

15 286. While there are no limits to what coaches and administrators can make, the NCAA's
 16 definition of amateurism caps “full” athletic scholarships below Cost of Attendance, or the price tag
 17 that each school reports to the U.S. Department of Education. The athletic scholarship is the
 18 compensation that athletes receive for their contributions to the college, and every full athletic
 19 scholarship in the nation leaves them with out-of-pocket education related expenses. Using the Cost
 20 of Attendance figures that colleges report to the Department of Education each year, a recent study
 21 found that the average scholarship shortfall for a full scholarship athlete at a Football Bowl
 22 Subdivision school was \$3,222 in 2010-11. Jim Delany of Defendant Big Ten Conference puts this
 23 estimate as high as \$5,000 for Big Ten Schools.

24 287. These same colleges are free to *give* full *academic* scholarships that fully cover the
 25 Cost of Attendance while their “full” *athletic* scholarships must fall short of the Cost of Attendance
 26 due to the NCAA's definition of amateurism. As one such example, the University of North

27 ³⁸ [http://www.cbssports.com/collegefootball/blog/dennis-dodd/19217878/ncaa-president-](http://www.cbssports.com/collegefootball/blog/dennis-dodd/19217878/ncaa-president-conference-realignment-a-market-shakedown)
 28 [conference-realignment-a-market-shakedown.](http://www.cbssports.com/collegefootball/blog/dennis-dodd/19217878/ncaa-president-conference-realignment-a-market-shakedown)

Carolina (at Chapel Hill) gives out the Morehead-Cain scholarship, which the school describes on its website as “The oldest, most prestigious merit scholarship program in the United States.” This scholarship provides more than a “Full Ride” GIA, including:

- full tuition
 - student fees
 - housing
 - meals
 - books and a laptop
 - supplies and miscellaneous
- A four-year Summer Enrichment Program made up of diverse, customized experiences that begin the summer before freshman year and include:
 - Outdoor Leadership
 - Public Service
 - Inquiry and Exploration
 - Private Enterprise
 - Discovery Funds to be used for education opportunities

288. In contrast, college athletes have been promised by their colleges and coaches that their educational pursuits will be fully supported with a “full” scholarship, but despite record revenues, they have never fully funded this promise. This leaves most players and their families unprepared for the financial demands that they must address.

289. The inequities in this system can be gauged from several vantage points. When head coaches salaries are compared with the scholarship shortfall of entire football teams based on 85 scholarships (using in-state tuition calculations only), the gap is striking. While team shortfalls in 2010-11 ranged from \$80,920 to over \$520,795, some coaches’ bonuses alone were greater than those shortfalls. Then-University of Florida head football coach Urban Meyer could have financed the total scholarship shortfall for his entire team, \$271,150, with only *half* of his \$575,000 maximum bonus that year, leaving his \$4 million salary completely intact. Similarly, University of Oklahoma head coach Bob Stoops’ contract provided for a maximum bonus of \$819,500 while his football team’s total scholarship shortfall was \$338,980. Among the colleges with the top 10 football revenues, the sum of team scholarship shortfalls was approximately \$2.5 million while the maximum bonuses these head football coaches could earn was \$5.4 million. As mentioned before, taking just

the increase in pay that Alabama coach Nick Saban received after the 2013-14 football season, would be enough to pay each scholarship athlete on Saban's team \$17,000 per year. Although some argue that the financial state of college athletics does not have the resources to remedy the scholarship shortfall problem, dollars allocated to the incentives built into coach contracts to win conference games, achieve a certain winning percentage, be selected for a non-Bowl Championship Series or Bowl Championship Series bowl, be named coach of the year by a conference or national association, or to simply stay at an institution, incentives that hinge on the performance of athletes who generate the money to pay those incentives, would certainly be a budget area to be examined. Even if the claim of poverty is correct, that is no justification for collusion.

VII. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

Plaintiff brings this action as a class action under Rules 23(a), 23(b)(2) and 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil procedure, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated. The Class is defined as:

All persons who received athletic grants-in-aid ("GIAs") for participation in college football from a college or university that is a member of the following NCAA conferences, the Pac 12 Conference, the Big Ten Conference, the Big 12 Conference, the Southeastern Conference, the Atlantic Coast Conference, at any time between four (4) years prior to the filing of this Complaint, and the date of judgment in this matter.

290. The Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. While the exact number of the Class Members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can only be discerned through discovery, Plaintiff is informed and believes that there are several thousand Class Members.

291. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the other members of the Class. Plaintiff and other Class Members sustained damages arising out of Defendants' common course of conduct in violation of law as complained herein. The injuries and damages of each member of the Class were directly caused by Defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of laws as alleged herein.

292. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class and has retained counsel competent and experienced in class action litigation, including antitrust class action litigation.

293. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class which predominate over any questions affecting solely individual members of the Class. Although in many cases, the Defendants admit that they have in fact engaged in the conduct listed below, nevertheless among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:

- a. Whether Defendants engaged in a contract, combination, or conspiracy to unreasonably restrain trade by limiting the monetary amount of grants-in-aid given to the Class;
- b. Whether such conduct caused members of the Class to receive less in grants-in-aid than they would have in a truly competitive market;
- c. Whether the Class was injured by Defendants' conduct, and, if so, the appropriate class-wide measure of damages for the Class; and
- d. Whether the Class is entitled to, among other things, injunctive relief, and if so, the nature and extent of such injunctive relief.

294. Defendants have acted in a manner applicable to the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief appropriate for the Class as a whole.

295. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the Class because the cap on grants-in-aid has injured both Plaintiff and the members of the Class.

296. Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class and will protect the claims and interests of the Class. Plaintiff does not have interests that conflict with those of the Class. Plaintiff will vigorously prosecute the claims alleged herein and has retained competent counsel with extensive antitrust and class action litigation experience.

297. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because joinder of all Class Members is impracticable. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would impose heavy burdens upon the courts and Defendants, and would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications of the questions of law and fact common to the Class. A class action, on the other hand, would achieve substantial economies of time, effort and expense, and would assure uniformity of decision as to persons similarly situated without sacrificing procedural fairness or bringing about other undesirable results.

298. The interest of members of the Class in individually controlling the prosecution of separate actions is theoretical rather than practical. The Class has a high degree of cohesion, and prosecution of the action through representatives would be unobjectionable. The amounts at stake for Class Members, while substantial in the aggregate, are not great enough individually to enable them to maintain separate suits against Defendants. Plaintiff does not anticipate any difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

VIII. ANTITRUST ALLEGATIONS

299. Defendants' contract, combination, and conspiracy described herein consisted of a continuing horizontal and vertical agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the Defendants and their co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were to artificially fix, depress, maintain, and/or stabilize prices received by Plaintiff and Class Members for their collegiate football athletic services in the United States, its territories and possessions.

300. In formulating and effectuating the contract, combination, or conspiracy, Defendants and their co-conspirators did those things that they unlawfully combined and conspired to do, including, among other things:

- a. agreeing to artificially fix, depress, maintain, and/or stabilize prices paid to Plaintiff and Class Members for their collegiate football athletic services; and
- b. implementing and monitoring the conspiracy among cartel members.

301. The activities described above have been engaged in by Defendants and their co-conspirators for the purpose of effectuating the unlawful agreement to fix, depress, maintain and/or stabilize prices paid to Plaintiff and Class Members for their collegiate football athletic services.

302. Defendants' actions constitute an unreasonable restraint of trade.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

PER SE VIOLATION OF § 1 OF THE SHERMAN ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1 **(Against All Defendants)**

303. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference each allegation set forth in all of the preceding paragraphs in this Complaint.

1 304. Throughout the Class Period, and continuing through the resolution of this case, the
2 NCAA and its member institutions participating in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market,
3 including the Power Conference Defendants, have engaged and continue to engage in a contract,
4 combination and conspiracy, through the cap on grants-in-aid, to fix the amount of financial aid and
5 awards available to Class Members and otherwise unreasonably restrain competition in violation of
6 Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

7 305. This combination and conspiracy, organized through the NCAA, which possesses a
8 dominant position in the relevant market, has produced and, unless restrained, will continue to
9 produce, the following anti-competitive effects, among others:

10 a. competition in the amount, terms and conditions of financial aid and awards to
11 Class Members at NCAA member institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor
12 Market has been and will continue to be unreasonably restricted and artificially eliminated; and

13 b. Class Members have been and will continue to be deprived of the benefits of
14 competition as to the amount, terms and conditions of grants-in-aid from NCAA member institutions
15 that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.

16 306. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff and the members of
17 the Class have been, are being, and will continue to be, injured and financially damaged in amounts
18 which are yet to be determined.

19 307. The NCAA and its members' abridgement of Class Members' economic rights are a
20 naked, *per se* restraint of trade.

21 308. The amount of damages suffered by Plaintiff and the members of the Class has not yet
22 been ascertained. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Clayton Act, Plaintiff is entitled to recover from the
23 NCAA treble the amount of actual damages as well as an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and
24 costs of suit.

25 309. Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to a declaratory judgment declaring as void
26 and unenforceable the NCAA Bylaws referenced herein that cap the value of grants-in-aid.

27 310. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to a permanent injunction that enjoins Defendants
28 from engaging in the ongoing violations described in this Complaint.

311. Plaintiff and the Class are further entitled to relief in the form of appointment of an External Antitrust Compliance Monitor detailed herein.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

VIOLATION OF § 1 OF THE SHERMAN ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1 UNREASONABLE RESTRAINT OF TRADE “QUICK LOOK” RULE OF REASON ANALYSIS (Against All Defendants)

312. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference each allegation set forth in all of the preceding paragraphs in this Complaint.

313. As an alternative to Plaintiff’s First Claim for Relief, if the Court determines that Defendants’ conduct does not constitute, in whole or in part, a *per se* antitrust violation, Plaintiff alternatively pleads that Defendants’ conduct, as analyzed in whole or in part via the “quick look” “rule of reason” antitrust analysis, violates the Sherman Act. The anti-competitive nature of Defendants’ agreement is so blatant that a detailed review of the surrounding marketplace is unnecessary. Under this analysis, as the Supreme Court has stated, “an observer with even a rudimentary understanding of economics could conclude that the arrangements in question would have an anti-competitive effect on customers and markets.” Those words equally apply to the present case.

314. Throughout the Class Period, and continuing through the resolution of this case, the NCAA and its member institutions participating in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, including the Power Conference Defendants, have engaged and continue to engage in a contract, combination and conspiracy, through the cap on grants-in-aid, to fix the amount of financial aid and awards available to Plaintiff and Class Members and otherwise unreasonably restrain competition in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

315. This combination and conspiracy, organized through the NCAA, which possesses a dominant position in the relevant market, has produced and, unless restrained, will continue to produce, the following anti-competitive effects among others:

a. competition in the amount, terms and conditions of financial aid and awards to Class Members at NCAA member institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market has been and will continue to be unreasonably restricted and artificially eliminated; and

b. Plaintiff and Class Members have been and will continue to be deprived of the benefits of competition as to the amount, terms and conditions of grants-in-aid from NCAA member institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.

316. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff and the Class Members have been, are being, and will continue to be, injured and financially damaged in amounts which are yet to be determined.

317. The NCAA and its members' abridgement of Plaintiff's and Class Members' economic rights are a restraint of trade, and are not connected to any legitimate non-commercial goals. The purpose of the NCAA's and its members' actions is solely to enhance revenue for themselves by cutting costs, specifically, to eliminate the need to compete, and to pay any compensation to Plaintiff and Class Members above the artificially depressed, capped grant-in-aid limit.

318. The anti-competitive effects of Defendants' scheme substantially outweigh any alleged pro-competitive effects or justifications that may be offered by Defendants, including that their collusive conduct is shielded by their self-crafted concept of "amateurism."

319. Reasonable and less restrictive alternatives are available to Defendants' current anti-competitive practices.

320. The amount of damages suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members have not yet been ascertained. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Clayton Act, Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to recover from the NCAA treble the amount of actual damages as well as an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit.

321. Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to a declaratory judgment declaring as void and unenforceable the NCAA Bylaws referenced herein that cap the value of grants-in-aid.

322. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to a permanent injunction that enjoins Defendants from engaging in the ongoing violations described in this Complaint.

323. Plaintiff and the Class are further entitled to relief in the form of appointment of an External Antitrust Compliance Monitor detailed herein.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

VIOLATION OF § 1 OF THE SHERMAN ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1 UNREASONABLE RESTRAINT OF TRADE FULL RULE OF REASON ANALYSIS (Against All Defendants)

324. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference each allegation set forth in all of the preceding paragraphs in this Complaint.

325. As an alternative to Plaintiff's First and Second Claims for Relief, if the Court determines that Defendants' conduct does not constitute, in whole or in part, a *per se* antitrust violation, and that Defendants' conduct should not be analyzed, in whole or in part, via the "quick look" "rule of reason" analysis, Plaintiff alternatively pleads that Defendants' conduct, as analyzed in whole or in part via the full "rule of reason" antitrust analysis, violates the Sherman Act.

326. Throughout the Class Period, and continuing through the resolution of this case, the NCAA and its member institutions participating in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market, including the Power Conference Defendants, have engaged and continue to engage in a contract, combination and conspiracy, through the cap on grants-in-aid, to fix the amount of financial aid and awards available to Plaintiff and Class Members and otherwise unreasonably restrain competition in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

327. This combination and conspiracy, organized through the NCAA, which possesses a dominant position in the relevant market, has produced and, unless restrained, will continue to produce, the following anti-competitive effects among others:

a. competition in the amount, terms and conditions of financial aid and awards to Plaintiff and Class Members at NCAA member institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market has been and will continue to be unreasonably restricted and artificially eliminated; and

1 b. Plaintiff and Class Members have been and will continue to be deprived of the
2 benefits of competition as to the amount, terms and conditions of grants-in-aid from NCAA member
3 institutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision Labor Market.

4 328. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff and Class Members
5 have been, are being, and will continue to be, injured and financially damaged in amounts which are
6 yet to be determined.

7 329. The NCAA and its members' abridgement of Plaintiff and Class Members' economic
8 rights are a restraint of trade, and are not connected to any legitimate non-commercial goals. The
9 purpose of the NCAA's and its members' actions is solely to enhance revenue for themselves by
10 cutting costs, specifically, to eliminate the need to compete, and to pay any compensation to Plaintiff
11 and Class Members above the artificially depressed, capped grant-in-aid limit.

12 330. The anti-competitive effects of Defendants' scheme substantially outweigh any
13 alleged pro-competitive effects or justifications that may be offered by Defendants, including that
14 their collusive conduct is shielded by their self-crafted concept of "amateurism."

15 331. Reasonable and less restrictive alternatives are available to Defendants' current anti-
16 competitive practices.

17 332. The amount of damages suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members has not yet been
18 ascertained. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Clayton Act, Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to
19 recover from the NCAA treble the amount of actual damages as well as an award of reasonable
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21 333. Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to a declaratory judgment declaring as void
22 and unenforceable the NCAA Bylaws referenced herein that cap the value of grants-in-aid.

23 334. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to a permanent injunction that enjoins Defendants
24 from engaging in the ongoing violations described in this Complaint.

25 335. Plaintiff and the Class are further entitled to relief in the form of appointment of an
26 External Antitrust Compliance Monitor detailed herein.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

**VIOLATION OF THE UNFAIR COMPETITION ACT,
CALIFORNIA BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS CODE § 17200, *et seq.*
(Against the NCAA and the PAC 12)**

336. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference each allegation set forth in all of the preceding paragraphs in this Complaint. This Count is asserted on behalf of a subclass of players who attended a Power Conference School in California and who received full grants-in-aid.

337. On September 27, 2012, California's Governor signed into law California State Senate Bill No. 1525, the "Student Athlete Bill of Rights," which states, in part, that The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

a. Meeting the educational needs of student-athletes should be a priority for intercollegiate athletic programs;

b. California's institutions of higher education that participate in Division I and Division II intercollegiate athletics collectively generate millions of dollars annually in media contracts, and this revenue would not exist without the efforts of student-athletes;

c. Student-athletes generate large revenues for many athletic programs, spend approximately 40 hours per week participating in their respective sports, and suffer current and historically low graduation rates;

d. Providing adequate health and safety protection for student-athletes can help prevent serious injury and death;

e. Current and former student-athletes can be left to pay for medical expenses incurred from injuries suffered while participating in intercollegiate athletics; and

f. Institutions of higher education should provide their student-athletes with the same due process protection afforded to students who do not participate in athletics.

338. Defendants' conduct and unlawful conspiracy, as alleged above, constituted and constitutes unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices in violation of Section 17200, *et seq.* of the California Business and Professions Code. The conduct is unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent because, among other things, it violates the federal Sherman Act as well as California's antitrust laws.

339. Moreover, Defendants' conduct is unfair in that it violates the policy and spirit of the California's Student Athlete Bill of Rights, as well as the policy and spirit of federal and California antitrust law. Defendants' conduct, in depriving Plaintiff and Class Members of basic economic rights, is directly at odds with California's policy of protecting the well-being of California's college athletes.

340. Defendants' conduct has further caused and is causing damage and irreparable injury to Plaintiff and Class Members. Plaintiff and Class Members are accordingly entitled to disgorgement of Defendants' profits and injunctive relief, plus interest and attorneys' fees, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5 and request the following injunctive relief: (a) that Defendants be ordered to cease and desist from continuing to unlawfully depress the potential financial aid and awards available to Plaintiff and Class Members; and (b) that Defendants disgorge all their profits obtained from the abridgement of Plaintiff's and Class Members' economic rights as described herein.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and the members of the Class pray for judgment against Defendant NCAA and the Power Conference Defendants as follows:

- A. For actual damages according to the proof at trial;
- B. For treble damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 15;
- C. For a declaratory judgment declaring as void the NCAA's Bylaws that operate to impose a cap on grants-in-aid that NCAA members may provide;
- D. For an injunction restraining the NCAA from enforcing its unlawful and anti-competitive agreement to cap the amount of financial aid available to Class Members;
- E. For Plaintiff's attorneys' fees, costs and expenses;
- F. For such other relief that the Court may deem just and equitable; and
- G. For the appointment of an Antitrust Compliance Monitor.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated hereby requests a jury trial on any and all claims so triable.

DATED: March 5, 2014

HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP

By: /s/ Jon T. King

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U.S. District Court
California Northern District (Oakland)
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 4:14-cv-01011-CW

Alston v. National Collegiate Athletic Association et al
Assigned to: Hon. Claudia Wilken
Referred to: Magistrate Judge Nathanael M. Cousins (Settlement)
Relate Case Case: [4:09-cv-01967-CW](#)
Cause: 15:1 Antitrust Litigation

Date Filed: 03/05/2014
Jury Demand: Plaintiff
Nature of Suit: 410 Anti-Trust
Jurisdiction: Federal Question

Plaintiff

Shawne Alston

*on behalf of himself and all others similarly
situated*

represented by **Jon T. King**
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Defendant**The Big Twelve Conference, Inc.**

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
03/05/2014	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against All Defendants (Filing fee \$ 400, receipt number 0971-8425160.). Filed by Shawne Alston. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Summons, # <u>2</u> Summons, # <u>3</u> Summons, # <u>4</u> Summons, # <u>5</u> Summons, # <u>6</u> Summons, # <u>7</u> Civil Cover Sheet)(King, Jon) (Filed on 3/5/2014) (Entered: 03/05/2014)
03/05/2014	2	<p>Case assigned to Magistrate Judge Elizabeth D. Laporte.</p> <p>Counsel for plaintiff or the removing party is responsible for serving the Complaint or Notice of Removal, Summons and the assigned judge's standing orders and all other new case documents upon the opposing parties. For information, visit <i>E-Filing A New Civil Case</i> at http://cand.uscourts.gov/ecf/caseopening.</p> <p>Standing orders can be downloaded from the court's web page at www.cand.uscourts.gov/judges. Upon receipt, the summons will be issued and returned electronically. Counsel is required to send</p>

chambers a copy of the initiating documents pursuant to L.R. 5-1(e)(7). A scheduling order will be sent by Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) within two business days. (cjs, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/5/2014) (Entered: 03/05/2014)

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		chambers a copy of the initiating documents pursuant to L.R. 5-1(e)(7). A scheduling order will be sent by Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) within two business days. (cjs, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/5/2014) (Entered: 03/05/2014)
03/05/2014	<u>3</u>	Initial Case Management Scheduling Order with ADR Deadlines: Case Management Statement due by 5/27/2014. Case Management Conference set for 6/3/2014 10:00 AM. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Standing Order)(mclS, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/5/2014) (Entered: 03/05/2014)
03/05/2014	<u>4</u>	Summons Issued as to Atlantic Coast Conference, National Collegiate Athletic Association, Pacific 12 Conference, Southeastern Conference, The Big Ten Conference, Inc., The Big Twelve Conference, Inc. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> The Big Twelve Conference, Inc., # <u>2</u> The Big Ten Conference, Inc., # <u>3</u> National Collegiate Athletic Association, # <u>4</u> Pacific 12 Conference, # <u>5</u> Southeastern Conference) (mclS, COURT STAFF) (Entered: 03/05/2014)
03/06/2014	<u>5</u>	SUMMONS RETURNED EXECUTED by Shawne Alston. <i>The Big Twelve Conference served on 3/6/14, answer due 3/27/14.</i> (King, Jon) (Filed on 3/6/2014) Modified on 3/7/2014 (mclS, COURT STAFF). (Entered: 03/06/2014)
03/06/2014	<u>6</u>	SUMMONS RETURNED EXECUTED by Shawne Alston. <i>National Collegiate Athletic Association served on 3/6/14, answer due 3/27/14.</i> (King, Jon) (Filed on 3/6/2014) Modified on 3/7/2014 (mclS, COURT STAFF). (Entered: 03/06/2014)
03/06/2014	<u>7</u>	CONSENT/DECLINATION to Proceed Before a US Magistrate Judge by Shawne Alston.. (King, Jon) (Filed on 3/6/2014) (Entered: 03/06/2014)
03/07/2014	<u>8</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Robert James Wierenga (Wierenga, Robert) (Filed on 3/7/2014) (Entered: 03/07/2014)
03/07/2014	<u>9</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Jacob Klein Danziger (Danziger, Jacob) (Filed on 3/7/2014) (Entered: 03/07/2014)
03/07/2014	<u>10</u>	MOTION for leave to appear in Pro Hac Vice <i>Steve W. Berman</i> (Filing fee \$ 305, receipt number 0971-8434531.) filed by Shawne Alston. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Certificate of Good Standing)(Berman, Steve) (Filed on 3/7/2014) (Entered: 03/07/2014)
03/10/2014	<u>11</u>	SUMMONS RETURNED EXECUTED by Shawne Alston. <i>Pacific 12 Conference served on 3/6/14, answer due 3/27/14.</i> (Berman, Steve) (Filed on 3/10/2014) Modified on 3/11/2014 (mclS, COURT STAFF). (Entered: 03/10/2014)
03/11/2014	<u>12</u>	CLERK'S NOTICE of Impending Reassignment to U.S. District Judge (knm, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/11/2014) (Entered: 03/11/2014)
03/12/2014	<u>13</u>	ORDER, Case reassigned to Hon. Maxine M. Chesney. Magistrate Judge Elizabeth D. Laporte no longer assigned to the case.. Signed by Executive Committee on 3/12/14. (haS, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/12/2014) (Entered: 03/12/2014)
03/13/2014	<u>14</u>	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE by Shawne Alston <i>of the Southeastern Conference</i> (Berman, Steve) (Filed on 3/13/2014) (Entered: 03/13/2014)
03/13/2014	<u>15</u>	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE by Shawne Alston <i>of the Atlantic Coast Conference</i> (Berman, Steve) (Filed on 3/13/2014) (Entered: 03/13/2014)
03/14/2014	<u>16</u>	ORDER OF REFERRAL. Signed by Judge Maxine M. Chesney on March 14, 2014. (mmclc2, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/14/2014) (Entered: 03/14/2014)
03/14/2014	<u>17</u>	ORDER REFERRING CASE TO MAGISTRATE JUDGE COUSINS FOR SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE. Signed by Judge Maxine M. Chesney on March 14, 2014. (mmclc2, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/14/2014) (Entered: 03/14/2014)
03/14/2014	<u>18</u>	ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION OF ATTORNEY STEVE W. BERMAN PRO HAC VICE. Signed by Judge Maxine M. Chesney on March 14, 2014. (mmclc2, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/14/2014) (Entered: 03/14/2014)
03/14/2014	<u>19</u>	CASE MANAGEMENT SCHEDULING ORDER: Case Management Statement due by

03/14/2014		CASE REFERRED to Magistrate Judge Nathanael M. Cousins for Settlement (ahm, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/14/2014) (Entered: 03/14/2014)
03/17/2014	20	ORDER RELATING CASE with member case C-09-1967-CW. Case reassigned to Judge Hon. Claudia Wilken for all further proceedings. Judge Hon. Maxine M. Chesney no longer assigned to the case.. Signed by Judge Claudia Wilken on 3/17/2014. (cpS, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/17/2014) (Entered: 03/17/2014)
03/18/2014	21	NOTICE of Appearance by Nathan Clifton Chase, Jr (Chase, Nathan) (Filed on 3/18/2014) (Entered: 03/18/2014)
03/18/2014	22	Certificate of Interested Entities by Southeastern Conference (Chase, Nathan) (Filed on 3/18/2014) (Entered: 03/18/2014)
03/18/2014	23	STIPULATION <i>to Extend Defendants' Time to Answer or Otherwise Respond to re 1 Complaint</i> filed by National Collegiate Athletic Association, Pacific 12 Conference, The Big Ten Conference Inc, The Big Twelve Conference Inc, Southeastern Conference, Atlantic Coast Conference, Shawne Alston. (Wierenga, Robert) (Filed on 3/18/2014) Modified on 3/19/2014 (cpS, COURT STAFF). (Entered: 03/18/2014)
03/18/2014	24	NOTICE of Appearance by Charles Lagrange Coleman, III <i>and Adanna M. Love (HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP)</i> (Coleman, Charles) (Filed on 3/18/2014) (Entered: 03/18/2014)
03/18/2014	25	** DISREGARD - FILED IN ERROR ** Modified on 3/18/2014 (lmh, COURT STAFF). (Entered: 03/18/2014)
03/18/2014	26	SUMMONS Returned Executed by Shawne Alston. The Big Ten Conference, Inc. served on 3/6/2014, answer due 3/27/2014. (Berman, Steve) (Filed on 3/18/2014) (Entered: 03/18/2014)
03/18/2014	27	Certificate of Interested Entities by Pacific 12 Conference (Cooper, Scott) (Filed on 3/18/2014) (Entered: 03/18/2014)
03/19/2014	28	CASE MANAGEMENT SCHEDULING ORDER FOR REASSIGNED CIVIL CASES : Case Management Statement due by 5/21/2014. Case Management Conference set for 5/28/2014 02:00 PM. Signed by Judge Claudia Wilken on 3/19/2014. (Attachments: # 1 Standing Order)(ndr, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/19/2014) (Entered: 03/19/2014)
03/19/2014		Electronic filing error. Names of interested entities or persons were not entered. Please re-file in its entirety. Re: 22 Certificate of Interested Entities filed by Southeastern Conference, 27 Certificate of Interested Entities filed by Pacific 12 Conference (cpS, COURT STAFF) (Filed on 3/19/2014) (Entered: 03/19/2014)
03/19/2014	29	NOTICE of Appearance by Christopher John Kelly <i>and Andrew S. Rosenman</i> (Kelly, Christopher) (Filed on 3/19/2014) (Entered: 03/19/2014)
03/19/2014	30	Certificate of Interested Entities by Southeastern Conference identifying Other Affiliate University of Missouri, Other Affiliate University of Florida, Other Affiliate University of Alabama, Other Affiliate University of Arkansas, Other Affiliate Auburn University, Other Affiliate University of Georgia, Other Affiliate University of Kentucky, Other Affiliate Louisiana State University, Other Affiliate University of Mississippi, Other Affiliate Mississippi State University, Other Affiliate University of South Carolina, Other Affiliate University of Tennessee, Other Affiliate Texas A&M University, Other Affiliate Vanderbilt University for Southeastern Conference. [<i>REFILING of Certification by SEC Identifying "Non-Parent Entities"</i>] (Chase, Nathan) (Filed on 3/19/2014) (Entered: 03/19/2014)
03/19/2014	31	Certificate of Interested Entities by Pacific 12 Conference identifying Other Affiliate University of Utah, Other Affiliate University of Southern California, Other Affiliate University of Arizona, Other Affiliate Arizona State University, Other Affiliate University of California, Los Angeles, Other Affiliate University of Colorado, Boulder, Other Affiliate University of Oregon, Other Affiliate

03/19/2014	<u>32</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Scott P. Cooper (Cooper, Scott) (Filed on 3/19/2014) (Entered: 03/19/2014)
03/19/2014	<u>33</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Jennifer L. Jones (Jones, Jennifer) (Filed on 3/19/2014) (Entered: 03/19/2014)
03/19/2014	<u>34</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Shawn Scott Ledingham, Jr (Ledingham, Shawn) (Filed on 3/19/2014) (Entered: 03/19/2014)

PACER Service Center			
Transaction Receipt			
03/19/2014 18:28:04			
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Description:	Docket Report	Search Criteria:	4:14-cv-01011-CW
Billable Pages:	5	Cost:	0.50

EXHIBIT 2

who perform services for Defendants' member institutions in the big business of college sports. However, instead of allowing their member institutions to compete for the services of those players while operating their businesses, Defendants have entered into what amounts to cartel agreements with the avowed purpose and effect of placing a ceiling on the compensation that may be paid to these athletes for their services. Those restrictions are pernicious, a blatant violation of the antitrust laws, have no legitimate pro-competitive justification, and should now be struck down and enjoined.

2. The Plaintiffs—four current top-tier college football and men's basketball players, along with the class members whom the players seek to represent—are exploited by Defendants and their member institutions under false claims of amateurism. The Defendants and their member institutions have lost their way far down the road of commercialism, signing multi-billion dollar contracts wholly disconnected from the interests of "student athletes," who are barred from receiving the benefits of competitive markets for their services even though their services generate these massive revenues. As a result of these illegal restrictions, market forces have been shoved aside and substantial damages have been inflicted upon a host of college athletes whose services have yielded riches only for others. This class action is necessary to end the NCAA's unlawful cartel, which is inconsistent with the most fundamental principles of antitrust law.

3. This class action is brought to permanently enjoin violations by each Defendant of the federal antitrust laws. Moreover, the named Plaintiffs seek to recover individual damages resulting from those violations.

4. Plaintiffs, and the classes of football and basketball players whom the player Plaintiffs seek to represent, are athletes who have performed services for Defendants' member

institutions in top-tier college football and men's basketball competitions. These classes of athletes have entered into financial agreements with Defendants' member institutions that sponsor and operate football and men's basketball programs subject to the rules of the NCAA and the member conferences that have all agreed to apply NCAA restrictions.

5. Defendants have jointly agreed and conspired with their member institutions to deny Plaintiffs the ability to provide and/or market their services as football and men's basketball players in top-tier college football and men's basketball markets through a patently unlawful price-fixing and group boycott arrangement.

6. The Defendants' agreed-upon rules impose an artificial and unlawful ceiling on the remuneration that players may receive for their services as football and men's basketball players in the multi-billion dollar college sports industry. Under NCAA and Power Conference rules, players may receive only tuition, required institutional fees, room and board, and required course-related books in exchange for their services as college football and men's basketball players. This amount is defined by the NCAA as a "full grant-in-aid" and commonly referred to as an "athletic scholarship."

7. These agreements to price-fix players' compensation, and to boycott any institutions or players who refuse to comply with the price fixing agreement, are *per se* illegal acts under Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1. They also constitute an unreasonable restraint of trade under the rule of reason, whether under a "quick look" or full-blown rule of reason analysis.

8. As a result of Defendants' anticompetitive agreements, Plaintiffs and other similarly situated current and future college football and men's basketball players in the relevant markets described in more detail below have received and/or will receive less remuneration for

their playing services than they would receive in a competitive market. A permanent injunction, on behalf of the proposed injunctive class, is the only relief that can bring these unlawful restrictions to an end.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

9. These claims arise and are brought under Section 1 of the Sherman Antitrust Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

10. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 4 and 15, and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1337 and 1367, in that this action arises under federal antitrust laws.

11. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 and 15 U.S.C. § 22.

12. Each of the Defendants can be found, resides, has an agent, or transacts business in the District of New Jersey, and the unlawful activities were or will be carried on in part by one or more of the Defendants within this district. The District of New Jersey is home to eight universities that operate Division I football and/or men's basketball programs, including Fairleigh Dickinson University, Monmouth University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Princeton University, Rider University, Rutgers University ("Rutgers"), Saint Peter's University, and Seton Hall University ("Seton Hall"). Rutgers has contracted with Defendant the Big Ten Conference to join that conference starting this year. Additionally, the NCAA has conducted its Division I men's basketball championship within the district, has contracted for services related to such event in the district, and has distributed revenue to universities within the district. Further, NCAA member institutions recruit the talents of football and men's basketball players from the district and conduct transactions within the district, including the offering and signing of athletic scholarship agreements, which are the subject of the unlawful restrictions that are challenged in this action.

13. Plaintiff Johnathan Moore continues to provide his services as a men's basketball player within this district for Rutgers and maintains a residence within this district.

14. Defendants earn billions of dollars from television agreements that are the product of their unlawful restrictions, which revenues are earned in part from telecasts that are disseminated in this district.

THE PARTIES

15. Plaintiff Martin Jenkins is a college football player who was recruited by several NCAA Division I and Power Conference member institutions. In 2010, Jenkins was offered and accepted a full grant-in-aid to play football at Clemson University ("Clemson"), located in Clemson, South Carolina, a Division I member of the NCAA and the Atlantic Coast Conference, where he currently participates as a member of the football team.

16. Pursuant to NCAA and conference rules, the athletics-based remuneration provided to Jenkins by Clemson during each year of his participation with the football team has been equal to, and no more than, the highest amount permitted under the artificial restraints imposed on athlete compensation by Defendants. Several other NCAA Division I member institutions offered Jenkins a full grant-in-aid to play football, the amounts of which were also capped by rules imposed by Defendants.

17. Plaintiff Johnathan (J.J.) Moore is a college basketball player who was recruited by several NCAA Division I and Power Conference member institutions. In 2010, Moore was offered and accepted a full grant-in-aid to play basketball at the University of Pittsburgh ("Pittsburgh"), located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a Division I member of the NCAA and now a member of the Atlantic Coast Conference. (In 2010, Pittsburgh was a member of the Big East Conference, which has since lost numerous members and has been renamed the American

Athletic Conference). In 2013, Moore transferred schools and was offered and accepted a full grant-in-aid to play basketball at Rutgers, a Division I member of the NCAA and currently a member of the American Athletic Conference. (Rutgers has agreed to join and will join the Big Ten conference in conference play starting in the 2014-15 academic year.) Rutgers is located in New Brunswick, New Jersey, where Moore currently participates as a member of the men's basketball team.

18. Pursuant to NCAA and conference rules, the athletics-based remuneration provided to Moore by Pittsburgh and Rutgers during each year of his participation with the men's basketball teams at each school has been equal to, and no more than, the highest amount permitted under the artificial restraints imposed on athlete compensation by Defendants. Several other NCAA Division I member institutions offered Moore a full grant-in-aid to play basketball, the amounts of which were also capped by rules imposed by Defendants.

19. Plaintiff Kevin Perry is a college football player who was recruited by several NCAA Division I and Power Conference member institutions for football and/or basketball. In 2009, Perry was offered and accepted a full grant-in-aid to play football at the University of Texas at El Paso ("UTEP"), located in El Paso, Texas, a Division I member of the NCAA and Conference USA.

20. Pursuant to NCAA and conference rules, the athletics-based remuneration provided to Perry by UTEP during each year of his participation with the football team has been equal to, and no more than, the highest amount permitted under the artificial restraints imposed on athlete compensation by Defendants. Several other NCAA Division I member institutions offered Perry a full grant-in-aid to play football and/or basketball, the amounts of which were also capped by rules imposed by the Defendants.

21. Plaintiff William Tyndall is a college football player who was recruited by several NCAA Division I and Power Conference member institutions. In 2010, Tyndall was offered and accepted a full athletics-based grant-in-aid to play football at the University of California, Berkeley (“Cal”), located in Berkeley, California, a Division I member of the NCAA and the Pac-12 Conference.

22. Pursuant to NCAA and conference rules, the athletics-based remuneration provided to Tyndall by Cal during each year of his participation with the football team has been equal to the highest amount permitted under the artificial restraints imposed on athlete compensation by the Defendants. Several other NCAA Division I member institutions offered Tyndall a full grant-in-aid to play football, the amounts of which were also capped by rules imposed by the Defendants.

23. Defendant NCAA is an unincorporated association of more than 1,200 colleges, universities, and athletic conferences located throughout the United States. The NCAA maintains its headquarters and principal place of business at 700 W. Washington Street in Indianapolis, Indiana. The NCAA is engaged in interstate commerce in the business of, among other things, governing the big business of top-tier college football and men’s basketball in the United States, as well as owning and operating the multi-billion dollar NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Championship.

24. The remaining Defendants are the five Power Conferences, each of which is engaged in interstate commerce in the business of, among other things, governing the big business of top-tier college football and men’s basketball engaged in by their members, including by selling broadcast rights to their members’ competitions.

25. Upon information and belief, each of the five Power Conferences is a separately owned entity. The Power Conferences are:

- The Atlantic Coast Conference (“ACC”), an unincorporated association that identified itself, as of 2011, as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, with its principal place of business at 4512 Weybridge Lane, Greensboro, North Carolina 27407;
- The Big Twelve Conference, Inc. (“Big 12”), a corporation organized under the laws of Delaware that identified itself, as of 2011, as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, with its principal place of business at 400 East John Carpenter Freeway, Irving, Texas 75062;
- The Big Ten Conference (“Big Ten”), a corporation organized under the laws of Delaware that identified itself, as of 2011, as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, with its principal place of business at 5440 Park Place, Rosemont, Illinois 60018;
- The Pac-12 Conference (“Pac-12”), an unincorporated association that identified itself, as of 2011, as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, with its principal place of business at 1350 Treat Boulevard, Suite 500, Walnut Creek, California 94597;
- The Southeastern Conference (“SEC”), an unincorporated association that identified itself, as of 2011, as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, with its principal place of business at 2201 Richard Arrington Boulevard North, Birmingham, Alabama 35203.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

26. Each of Plaintiffs Martin Jenkins, Kevin Perry, and William Tyndall (collectively, the “Football Plaintiffs”), and Plaintiffs Johnathan Moore and Kevin Perry (collectively, the “Basketball Plaintiffs”), is representative of an injunctive-relief class, as defined by Rule 23(b)(1) and/or Rule 23(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and brings this action on behalf of himself and his respective class members as described in Paragraphs 27-28 below. As described in more detail below, Perry received written scholarship offers for both his football and basketball services, and is a member of each of the two classes described below.

27. The class represented by the Football Plaintiffs is comprised of any and all NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision (“FBS”) football players who, at any time from the date of this Complaint through the date of the final judgment, or the date of the resolution of any appeals therefrom, whichever is later, received or will receive a written offer for a full grant-in-aid as defined in NCAA Bylaw 15.02.5, or who received or will receive such a full grant-in-aid (the “Football Class”).

28. The class represented by the Basketball Plaintiffs is comprised of any and all NCAA Division I men’s basketball players who, at any time from the date of this Complaint through the date of the final judgment, or the date of the resolution of any appeals therefrom, whichever is later, received or will receive a written offer for a full grant-in-aid as defined in NCAA Bylaw 15.02.5, or who received or will receive such a full grant-in-aid (the “Basketball Class”).

29. Each of the Football Class and the Basketball Class is so numerous and geographically so widely dispersed that joinder of all members is impracticable.

30. There are questions of law and fact common to each class. Each Plaintiff’s claims are typical of the claims of the class that he represents, and each Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the respective class that he represents.

31. Each person in each class is, has been, and/or will be subject to uniform agreements, rules, and practices among the Defendants that restrain competition for player services, including, but not limited to, the NCAA Bylaws and conference rules set forth herein, and any and all similar player restraints that are or will be uniformly imposed by the Defendants on members of each class. Indeed, the NCAA rules at issue apply uniformly to all members of each respective class.

Defendants' member institutions would, absent the restrictions at issue in this action, compete with each other for the services of athletes, such as Plaintiffs, who are recruited to perform services as football or basketball players for the various member institutions of the Defendants.

37. The Defendants' and their member institutions' operation of and engagement in the respective businesses of top-tier college football and men's basketball involves a substantial volume of interstate trade and commerce, including, *inter alia*, the following interstate activities: travel; communications; purchases and movement of equipment; broadcasts of games; advertisements; promotions; sales of tickets and concession items; sales of merchandise and apparel; employment of coaches and administrative personnel; employment of referees; and negotiations for all of the above.

38. The Defendants' and their member institutions' aforesaid interstate transactions involve billions of dollars in collective annual expenditures and receipts.

39. The Plaintiffs have been recruited by one or more of the Defendants' member institutions in interstate commerce as top-tier college football or men's basketball players.

THE ILLEGAL AGREEMENTS TO RESTRAIN COMPETITION

40. The anticompetitive agreements of the Defendants are neither secret, nor in dispute. They are documented and published in the NCAA Division I Manual (the NCAA's rule book) and the rulebooks of each of the Power Conferences. These rules constitute horizontal agreements in that they are proposed, drafted, voted upon, and agreed upon by NCAA members, including all of the Power Conference defendants, that compete with each other for the services of top-tier college football and men's basketball players. The anticompetitive rules are also strictly enforced, so that member institutions have no choice but to comply with them or face

penalties, including a boycott by the other member institutions of any institutions or players who do not comply.

41. NCAA Constitution Article 5.01.1 provides, “All legislation of the Association that governs the conduct of the intercollegiate athletics programs of its member institutions shall be adopted by the membership in Convention assembled.” Additionally, NCAA Constitution Article 3.2.4.1 provides that members “agree to administer their athletics programs in accordance with the constitution, bylaws, and other legislation of the Association.”

42. Plaintiffs bring this suit to challenge, as illegal agreements, all NCAA rules, along with all rules of each Power Conference, that are applicable to the FBS Football Players Market and the D-I Men’s Basketball Players Market (described below), and that prohibit, cap, or otherwise limit the remuneration that players in each of those markets may receive for their athletic services, including but not limited to NCAA Bylaws 12.01.4, 12.1.2, 12.1.2.1, 13.2.1, 13.2.1.1, 13.5.1, 13.5.2, 13.6.2, 13.6.4, 13.6.7.1, 13.6.7.4, 13.6.7.5, 13.6.7.7, 15.02.2, 15.02.5, 15.1, 16.02.3, 16.1.4, and 16.11.2 (individually, and as interpreted and applied in conjunction with each other).

43. NCAA Bylaw 15 sets forth “Financial Aid” rules, many of which impose restrictions on the amount and nature of, and method by which, remuneration may be provided to athletes. Bylaw 15.1 provides that an athlete may receive remuneration on the basis of athletics ability, but such remuneration is strictly limited to “the value of a full grant-in-aid.” Under Bylaw 15.02.5, a full grant-in-aid “consists of tuition and fees, room and board, and required course-related books.” An athlete may receive remuneration beyond this amount only if such additional pay is unrelated to athletic ability; however, even those amounts are subject to a cap. Bylaw 15.1 states that, “A student-athlete shall not be eligible to participate in intercollegiate

athletics if he or she receives financial aid that exceeds the value of the cost of attendance.” Cost of attendance is defined in Bylaw 15.02.2 as “an amount calculated by an institutional financial aid office, using federal regulations, that includes the total cost of tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, and other expenses related to attendance at the institution.” Standing alone, these rules demonstrate a horizontal agreement among competitors to cap the amount of remuneration schools may provide athletes for their services, despite how much money those athletes may generate for their institutions and Defendants.

44. The NCAA falsely claims that the above-mentioned grants-in-aid, which are awarded specifically on the basis athletic ability, are not to be considered payments. Bylaw 12.01.4 states, “A grant-in-aid administered by an educational institution is not considered to be pay or the promise of pay for athletics skill, provided it does not exceed the financial aid limitations set by the Association’s membership.” This bylaw is necessary because Bylaw 12 specifically prohibits any payment to athletes on the basis of the athletic services that they provide. Bylaw 12.1.2 provides:

An individual loses amateur status and thus shall not be eligible for intercollegiate competition in a particular sport if the individual (a) Uses his or her athletics skill (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form in that sport; (b) Accepts a promise of pay even if such pay is to be received following completion of intercollegiate athletics participation; (c) Signs a contract or commitment of any kind to play professional athletics, regardless of its legal enforceability or any consideration received, except as permitted in Bylaw 12.2.5.1; (d) Receives, directly or indirectly, a salary, reimbursement of expenses or any other form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization based on athletics skill or participation, except as permitted by NCAA rules and regulations; (e) Competes on any professional athletics team per Bylaw 12.02.9, even if no pay or remuneration for expenses was received, except as permitted in Bylaw 12.2.3.2.1; (f) After initial full-time collegiate enrollment, enters into a professional draft (see Bylaw 12.2.4); or (g) Enters into an agreement with an agent.

45. Bylaw 12.1.2.1 then delineates 20 different rules about the forms of prohibited payment, including, among others: any salary, cash (or the equivalent thereof), unauthorized educational expenses, and “preferential treatment, benefits and services.”

46. Bylaw 16 also prohibits benefits on the basis of athletic ability. Bylaw 16.11.2 provides, “The student-athlete shall not receive any extra benefit.” Under Bylaw 16.02.3:

An extra benefit is any special arrangement by an institutional employee or representative of the institution’s athletics interests to provide a student-athlete or the student-athlete family member or friend a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation. Receipt of a benefit by student-athletes or their family members or friends is not a violation of NCAA legislation if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the institution’s students or their family members or friends or to a particular segment of the student-body (e.g., international students, minority students) determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability.

47. Under Bylaw 16.1.4, “Awards received for intercollegiate athletics participation may not be sold, exchanged or assigned for another item of value, even if the student-athlete’s name or picture does not appear on the award.” In fact, this bylaw is interpreted to apply in perpetuity such that even after an athlete exhausts his NCAA eligibility, the sale of an award constitutes an NCAA violation.

48. Bylaw 13 restricts schools from providing prospective athletes with recruiting inducements. Bylaw 13.2.1 states, “An institution’s staff member or any representative of its athletics interests shall not be involved, directly or indirectly, in making arrangements for or giving or offering to give any financial aid or other benefits to a prospective student-athlete or his or her relatives or friends, other than expressly permitted by NCAA regulations.” Bylaw 13.2.1.1 delineates specific prohibitions, including: cash, gifts, loans, clothing, employment arrangements, free and/or reduced-cost housing or services, and “any tangible item.”

49. Limitations also are placed on the number and length of expense-paid visits schools may provide prospective athletes, and on the value of meals, transportation, and entertainment provided during such visits. Bylaw 13.6.2 provides, “A member institution may finance only one visit to its campus for a prospective student-athlete.” Under Bylaw 13.6.4, “An official visit to an institution shall not exceed 48 hours.” Additionally, Bylaw 13.6.7.1 states, “An institution may provide entertainment, which may not be excessive, on the official visit only for a prospective student-athlete and the prospective student-athlete’s parents (or legal guardians) or spouse and only within a 30-mile radius of the institution’s main campus.” According to Bylaw 13.6.7.4, “The institution ... shall not provide cash to a prospective student-athlete for entertainment purposes.” However, under Bylaw 13.6.7.5, the institution may provide cash to a student host responsible for entertaining the prospective athlete up to “\$40 for each day of the visit to cover all actual costs of entertaining the student host(s) and the prospective student-athlete (and the prospective student-athlete’s parents, legal guardians or spouse), excluding the cost of meals and admission to campus athletics events.” Further, Bylaw 13.6.7.7 states, “The cost of actual meals, not to exceed three per day, on the official visit for a prospective student-athlete and the prospective student-athlete’s parents, legal guardians, spouse or children need not be included in the \$40-per-day entertainment expense. Meals must be comparable to those provided to student-athletes during the academic year. A reasonable snack (e.g., pizza, hamburger) may be provided in addition to the three meals.” Although transportation to and from campus may be provided to the athlete, under Bylaw 13.5.2.1, “Use of a limousine or helicopter for such transportation is prohibited.”

50. The Power Conferences, as NCAA members, have agreed to the rules cited above and have codified their own rules which may be more restrictive, but not more liberal, than

- (d) Pac-12 Bylaw 4.2 (“Application of NCAA Legislation”): “The Conference is a member of the NCAA, therefore, all member institutions are bound by NCAA rules and regulations unless the Conference rules are more demanding.” Pac-12 Executive Regulation 3-1: “The rule of the [NCAA] shall govern all matters concerning financial aid to student-athletes except to the extent that such rules are modified by the CEO Group.”
- (e) SEC Bylaw Article 5.01.1 (“Governance”): “The Conference shall be governed by the Constitution, Bylaws, and other rules, regulations, and legislation of the Conference and the NCAA.” SEC Bylaw Article 15.01 (“General Principles”): “Any scholarship or financial aid to a student-athlete must be awarded in accordance with all NCAA and SEC regulations.”

51. These anticompetitive agreements are strictly enforced to punish any NCAA and Power Conference members that do not adhere completely to the letter of these restraints. NCAA Constitution Article 1.3.2 provides, “Member institutions shall be obligated to apply and enforce this legislation, and the enforcement procedures of the Association shall be applied to an institution when it fails to fulfill this obligation.” Additionally, NCAA Constitution Article 2.8.3 provides, “An institution found to have violated the Association’s rules shall be subject to such disciplinary and corrective actions as may be determined by the Association.” Accordingly, all NCAA members are forced to abide by the illegal restraints as co-conspirators with Defendants or face punishment.

52. Formalized enforcement procedures are codified in Bylaw 19 of the NCAA Division I Manual. Bylaw 19.01.2 provides, “The enforcement program shall hold institutions, coaches, administrators and student-athletes who violate the NCAA constitution and bylaws accountable for their conduct, both at the individual and institutional levels.”

53. Central to enforcement is the requirement that NCAA institutions report any instance of noncompliance. More than 3,000 “secondary” violations (now known as Level 3 and 4 violations) are reported by member institutions each year. Additionally, the NCAA employs approximately 60 full-time staff members in its enforcement department to investigate NCAA violations and bring charges against schools. Approximately 20 “major” violations (now known as Level 1 and 2 violations) are processed by the NCAA enforcement staff each year, although many more cases are investigated. Schools charged with violating the rules must appear before the NCAA Committee on Infractions, which makes factual findings and imposes penalties for deviating from the agreed upon restraints. Penalties include fines, scholarship reductions, recruiting restrictions, and even a “death penalty” in which a school is banned from competing in a sport for a year or more.

RELEVANT MARKETS

54. This action involves two distinct relevant markets, with at least one relevant market applicable to each Plaintiff, and to each of the Football Class and the Basketball Class: (i) the market for NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision (“FBS”) football player services (the “FBS Football Players Market”); and (ii) the market for NCAA Division I men’s basketball player services (the “D-I Men’s Basketball Players Market”). Each of these markets represents the highest level of intercollegiate competition for each sport, and each is distinct in that it offers

a unique opportunity for player services for which there is no substitute for Plaintiffs or class members.

FBS Football Players Market

55. The FBS Football Players Market is comprised of 125 colleges and universities that operate football programs at the highest level of intercollegiate football competition and is distinguished from its Division I subordinate, the Football Championship Subdivision (“FCS”), formerly known as Division I-AA, and lower levels of NCAA football, in that FBS college football programs have larger football budgets, higher attendance levels, greater revenues, and more athletic scholarships for athletes than do FCS institutions and those schools that compete in lower levels of NCAA football (i.e., Divisions II and III).

56. Although both the FBS and FCS abide by the rules set by the NCAA Football Rules Committee, their postseason formats are significantly different. As its name indicates, the FBS postseason competition is marked by invitational “bowl” games (35 in the 2013-14 football season), rather than an NCAA-sponsored championship tournament (as is the case for the FCS).

57. Starting with the 2014-15 football season, the FBS postseason will feature the newly created College Football Playoff (“CFP”) consisting of four teams that will compete in two semifinal games for a chance to advance to a national championship game. The postseason “bowl” games, including the new CFP, are some of the most lucrative properties in the sports industry and generate billions of dollars annually.

58. Each year between late August and January, FBS teams compete against each other over the course of a 12-game football schedule, not including conference championships or postseason bowl games. Historically, regular season college football games were played on Saturdays but, to maximize television viewership and gain additional revenue from the sale of

media rights, some games are now played in “primetime” on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights, despite interference with the academic courses in which the athletes are required to be enrolled.

59. The FBS Football Players Market is unique in that the athletes who compete in the market are the most talented football players outside of the National Football League (“NFL”).

60. In the FBS Football Players Market, colleges and universities—the member institutions of the NCAA and the Power Conference defendants—compete for the services of the most talented college football players in the country, but cannot offer a penny more than a full grant-in-aid. The Defendants ban athletically related remuneration to players in the FBS Football Market above a full grant-in-aid, which does not even cover a player’s full cost of attendance.

61. The FBS Football Players Market is national in scope. Colleges seek out players from across the country, including players in this district. For example, the geographic diversity represented by the most recent recruiting class signed by the University of Miami (located in Miami, Florida) includes players from Arizona, California, New Jersey, and North Carolina; the most recent class signed by The Ohio State University (located in Columbus, Ohio) includes players from Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Texas; and the most recent class signed by West Virginia University (located in Morgantown, West Virginia) includes players from California, Florida, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania.

62. The FBS Football Players Market is the highest level at which football athletes of traditional college age can provide their services. Indeed, the NFL expressly bans from its

league players who have not chronologically passed the level of a college ‘junior,’ i.e., three years must elapse following high school graduation.

63. There is no reasonable alternative opportunity in which these athletes can provide their football services. Other professional or semi-professional football leagues available to college athletes, or lower level college divisions, do not offer nearly the level of competition, coaching instruction, funding, or attention as FBS football for players who are not yet eligible to play in the NFL. Moreover, most FBS football players never play in the NFL, so that FBS football is the last chance they have to realize the economic benefits of their talents as football players.

D-I Basketball Players Market

64. The D-I Men’s Basketball Players Market is comprised of 352 colleges and universities that operate basketball programs at the highest level of intercollegiate athletics. Between November and April each year, these teams compete against each other on the basketball court to produce the highly valued sports entertainment product known as D-I men’s college basketball, and especially the uniquely valuable NCAA Men’s Division I Basketball Championship, colloquially known as the “NCAA Tournament” or “March Madness.” The broadcast rights for the NCAA Tournament generate billions of dollars, none of which is shared with Plaintiffs or class members.

65. The D-I Men’s Basketball Players Market is distinguished from lower levels of NCAA basketball competition (i.e., Divisions II and III) in key ways. D-I basketball programs have larger basketball budgets, higher attendance levels, greater revenues, and more athletic scholarships than schools that compete in lower divisions.

66. In the D-I Men's Basketball Players Market, colleges and universities compete for the services of the most talented college basketball players in the country, but cannot offer a penny more than a full grant-in-aid, which does not even cover a student's full cost of attendance.

67. The D-I Men's Basketball Players Market is national in scope. Colleges seek out talent from across the country. For example, the geographic diversity represented by the most recent recruiting class signed by Duke University ("Duke") (located in Durham, North Carolina) includes players from Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, and Texas; the most recent class signed by the University of California, Los Angeles ("UCLA") (located in Los Angeles, California) includes players from Georgia, New Jersey, and Virginia; and the most recent class signed by the University of Michigan (located in Ann Arbor, Michigan) includes players from California, Florida, and Oregon.

68. There is no reasonable alternative opportunity in which these top-tier college basketball athletes can provide their services. Other lower-level college divisions and semi-professional leagues do not offer nearly the level of competition, coaching instruction, funding, or attention as D-I basketball. And most D-I college basketball players are never able to play in the National Basketball Association ("NBA") (which prohibits any such players from even applying until one year after their high school classes have graduated), so that D-I basketball is the only chance these athletes have to realize the economic benefit of their talents as basketball players.

A Few Exceptions

69. In either one or both of FBS football and D-I men's basketball, a limited number of institutions participate in athletic competition but, because of their special character, do not

offer grants-in-aid based on athletics. Those schools are mainly the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy, and the United States Air Force Academy (the “Service Academies”), and members of the Ivy League—Brown University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Princeton University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Yale University.

70. The Service Academies are members of NCAA Division I-A and participate in the FBS and D-I men’s basketball, but they offer full scholarships and stipends to all students who attend those schools (not only athletes) in exchange for required military service following graduation. NCAA rules governing athletic scholarships have no effect on the Service Academies or their student-athletes. Due to these differentiating elements, the Service Academies are not reasonable substitutes for the other colleges and universities that compete in the FBS and D-I men’s basketball, and they are not included in the relevant markets in this case.

71. The Ivy League schools participate in D-I men’s basketball but do not participate in the FBS. Ivy League schools have some of the nation’s highest academic admission standards, which apply to all prospective Ivy League students, including athletes, and Ivy League schools do not provide scholarships on the basis of athletics. NCAA restrictions on athletic scholarships thus do not directly affect the Ivy League. Due to these differentiating elements, the Ivy League schools are not reasonable substitutes for the other colleges and universities that compete in the FBS and D-I men’s basketball, and they are not included in the relevant markets in this case.

BACKGROUND OF THE UNLAWFUL RESTRAINTS

Formation of The NCAA Cartel

72. Founded in 1906 in response to circumstances far removed from today's big time college sports businesses, the NCAA issues rules that govern the administration of intercollegiate athletics. The colleges, universities, and athletic conferences that form the NCAA's membership collectively agree upon these rules. The NCAA operates and oversees the business of college football and college basketball.

73. Although no formalized rulebooks existed in the earliest years of the NCAA, payment to athletes in any form was prohibited at the NCAA's very beginning. The NCAA eventually allowed its member schools to provide athletes with tuition payments and related expenses at price-fixed amounts, but nothing more.

74. Originally, the NCAA was comprised of a single division with a uniform set of rules. Over time, the NCAA split into three divisions, with individual rules for each division. The separate divisions reflect not only philosophical differences among the schools related to the commercial scale of college sports, but also economic differences. An early example of such a divergence occurred in 1949 when the University of Chicago, a former football powerhouse and charter member of the Big Ten, withdrew from the conference due to what the university president viewed as the incompatibility of higher education and the increasing commercialization of major college sports.

75. The NCAA maintains that its foundational concept is amateurism, which it claims dictates, among other things, that athletes not receive pay for their participation in athletics. Yet, coaches, athletic directors, conference presidents, and NCAA executives are paid millions of dollars off the backs of the services provided by top-tier college football and basketball athletes.

There is nothing “amateur” about the billions of dollars generated by FBS football and D-I men’s basketball.

Competition Among NCAA Institutions for Player Services

76. For decades, NCAA institutions have ferociously competed with each other for the services of football and men’s basketball athletes, but only within the constraints of the rules that prohibit any financial compensation to athletes beyond the price-fixed limits set by the NCAA and its conferences. The NCAA and the Power Conferences have promulgated and enforced numerous rules designed to limit this competition for athletes. In areas outside these financial payment restrictions, competition for the services of football and men’s basketball athletes has only escalated over time, demonstrating the competitive forces that have been restrained by the Defendants’ restrictions on remuneration to top-tier college football and men’s basketball athletes.

77. The demand for the services of top-tier football and men’s basketball athletes is greater than ever, and such services are only growing in value. These athletes are so desired that national media outlets closely track recruitments from as early as freshman year in high school until National Signing Day, the date when high-school seniors are permitted to sign letters of intent to attend NCAA institutions. Websites operated by media giants including ESPN and Yahoo! Sports create and maintain profiles of thousands of high school football and basketball players, along with in-depth statistics and analysis of their recruitments, including lists of universities that are recruiting the young men, the dates of “official visits” to campuses, and whether the athletes have been offered or accepted athletic scholarships. Numerous scouting services and publications sell subscriptions with detailed information about the top prospects each year. Media outlets generate lists and rankings of the top prospects, which are then

discussed on television and radio at length for weeks and months leading up to National Signing Day. None of this attention has anything to do with how these athletes perform anywhere but on the athletic field, which, in turn, generates huge amounts of revenue for FBS football and D-I men's basketball programs.

78. On National Signing Day, usually the first Wednesday in February for football, many high school football players hold nationally televised press conferences to announce where they intend to play college football. Media outlets such as ESPN broadcast the signing decisions and provide commentary and analysis throughout the day (and for several days thereafter).

79. Competitor institutions boast of their sustained athletic success and notable alumni who play or have played in the NBA or NFL. Coaches bombard athletes with handwritten letters, sometimes sending dozens of letters in one day. And, perhaps most visibly, Power Conference schools are locked in an "arms race" to appeal to recruits—building expanded stadiums and arenas, luxury locker rooms and training facilities, high-end dorms, and specialized tutoring centers. The Power Conference schools also spend millions of dollars on coaches, all while the athletes are restricted from receiving any compensation beyond their NCAA capped "scholarships."

80. As a result of the ever-increasing economic incentives to field the best teams and win games, FBS and D-I men's basketball programs would clearly compete economically with one another for player services if not for NCAA and Power Conference restrictions. Such competition would provide fair compensation to these athletes for the billions of dollars in revenue that they help generate.

The Big Business of College Football and Basketball

81. FBS college football and Division I men's college basketball are, combined, among the most lucrative products in U.S. sports. Upon information and belief, the 65 schools in the five Power Conferences reported **\$5.15 billion** in total revenue in 2011-12.

82. The massive revenues earned by the NCAA, the Power Conferences, and their member institutions are in significant part generated from long-term contracts with national television and cable-networks for the rights to broadcast their football and basketball games.

83. In 2010, the NCAA announced a fourteen-year agreement with CBS and Turner Sports for the rights to broadcast the NCAA Tournament on television. Upon information and belief, the deal, which also includes a digital rights component, is valued at more than **\$11 billion**, and is worth 41% more than the previous broadcast rights contract for the NCAA Tournament. Conference partners and members schools split more than \$740 million of this revenue annually.

84. Upon information and belief, in November 2012, ESPN agreed to pay **\$5.64 billion** over twelve years—an average of \$470 million annually—to broadcast the College Football Playoff (CFP), a college football postseason tournament featuring two semifinal games and a national championship game that rotate among several venues that bid for the right to host CFP games. Upon information and belief, the participating schools and conferences have announced that revenue from the CFP will be distributed under a formula that pays the Power Conferences and the University of Notre Dame ("Notre Dame") 73% of the CFP's revenue, an average of roughly \$343.1 million per year. (Notre Dame is a member of the ACC for the purposes of D-I men's basketball, but is an independent school for the purposes of FBS football.)

85. In addition, upon information and belief, ESPN has agreed to pay a total of approximately \$220 million more annually to the major conferences for the rights to broadcast additional “major” football bowl games. For instance, ESPN will pay \$80 million more per year between 2015 and 2026 to broadcast the Rose Bowl. In years when that game is not part of the CFP, the Rose Bowl’s partner conferences—the Big Ten and Pac-12—will divide that incremental \$80 million among their twenty-six member schools. (The Big Ten is currently comprised of 12 teams but will increase to 14 at the start of the 2014 football season when Rutgers and the University of Maryland join the conference.) Similarly, ESPN has agreed to pay substantially the same money to broadcast the Champions Bowl, an annual pairing of the conference champions from the SEC and Big 12.

86. Upon information and belief, during the 2014-15 season, the Power Conferences and Notre Dame will receive approximately **\$1.099 billion** in revenue from television partners for regular season football games, irrespective of the additional revenue generated by the CFP. By the 2019-20 season, that number will grow to **\$1.633 billion**.

87. Upon information and belief, when all football broadcast revenue sources are combined, the Power Conferences and Notre Dame will receive at least **\$1.6 billion** from television partners in 2015 and **\$2.343 billion** by 2020.

88. Television contracts signed by individual conferences granting the right to broadcast their football and basketball games during the regular seasons are equally staggering. For example, upon information and belief:

- (a) The ACC receives **\$3.6 billion** from ESPN through 2026-27, a per-school average of \$17.1 million per year.

- (b) The Big 12 receives **\$1.17 billion** from Fox through 2024-25 and \$480 million from ESPN through 2015-16, a per-school average of \$15 million per year.
- (c) The Big Ten receives **\$2.8 billion** from its own Big Ten Network through 2031-32, **\$1 billion** from ESPN through 2016-17, \$145 million from Fox through 2016 just to broadcast the conference football championship game, and \$72 million from CBS through 2016-17, a per-school average of \$20.7 million per year
- (d) The Pac-12 receives a combined **\$3 billion** from Fox and ESPN through 2023-24, a per-school average of \$20.8 million per year.
- (e) The SEC receives **\$2.25 billion** from ESPN through 2023-24 and \$825 million from CBS through 2023-24, a per-school average of \$14.6 million per year.

89. Flush with cash and unable to compete for athletes on the basis of financial remuneration, colleges have directed their resources and competitive efforts to, among other things, the hiring of head coaches, instead of players. For example, upon information and belief, more than half of the head football coaches in the Power Conferences are paid at least \$2 million annually, and several head coaches are paid in excess of \$4 million annually, excluding endorsement revenue and other income, which can also be quite substantial.

90. As media revenues have exploded, numerous NCAA schools have also switched athletic conferences to maximize their revenue, showing little or no loyalty to their former conferences and purported principles of amateurism. A raft of conference shifts has taken place in the past few years, with teams often now located nowhere near the geographical locations of

their fellow conference members, helping to generate television revenues but disregarding the welfare of athletes who have to travel thousands of miles in the service of creating income for their schools. For example, West Virginia University is at least 800 miles from every other school in its conference, the Big 12.

91. The frenzy for new media revenues has resulted in a host of changes among conferences, and litigation involving spurned conferences and schools that left one conference for another. The NCAA and its members have unleashed this chaos with little regard for the athletes.

The NCAA's History of Antitrust Violations

92. Rather than permit their members to engage in competition for player services as the financial success of these sports has exploded, the Defendants have combined and conspired to eliminate such competition for NCAA players through price-fixing arrangements. This has been, and continues to be, accomplished by the Defendants jointly adopting and imposing rules that have the purpose and effect of preventing players from offering their services in competitive markets.

93. The NCAA has a history of violating federal antitrust law. As a result, over the years, numerous parties have brought and successfully prosecuted multiple antitrust lawsuits against the NCAA.

94. In 1984, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that the NCAA violated Section 1 of the Sherman Act by limiting the number of live televised football games under the media plan it adopted for the 1982-85 football seasons. In conjunction with the plan, the NCAA announced that it would punish any member institution that abided by a competing agreement with another network to televise more live games. The Court granted injunctive relief and held

that this scheme unlawfully restrained the market for live broadcasts of college football. *NCAA v. Board of Regents*, 468 U.S. 85 (1984).

95. The NCAA’s anticompetitive behavior was further illustrated in *Law v. NCAA*, in which the Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit upheld a summary judgment ruling that an NCAA cap on part-time coaches’ salaries at \$16,000 per year was an unlawful restraint of trade under Section 1 of the Sherman Act that could be condemned under a “quick look” analysis. The Tenth Circuit also upheld a permanent injunction that enjoined the NCAA from enforcing or attempting to enforce salary limitations on the specific class of coaches who had sued. The Court of Appeals held that the presence of a horizontal agreement to fix compensation was presumptively anticompetitive, and that the NCAA had failed to present even a triable issue concerning whether the salary restraint was procompetitive. *Law v. NCAA*, 134 F.3d 1010 (10th Cir. 1998).

96. In *Metropolitan Intercollegiate Basketball Association v. NCAA*, No. 01-cv-00071-MGC (S.D.N.Y.), five of the NCAA’s own member institutions sued the NCAA under the antitrust laws, alleging that the NCAA engaged in anticompetitive behavior to harm the National Invitational Tournament (“NIT”), which was in competition with the NCAA Tournament. That action resulted in the NCAA paying a significant settlement to the schools and agreeing to the NIT’s continued operation.

97. College athletes have previously sought relief from the NCAA’s restraints on remuneration, resulting in the NCAA agreeing to temporary remedies but with the restraints left standing.

98. Specifically, in *White v. NCAA*, a class of college football and basketball players challenged NCAA rules limiting student-athlete compensation to the value of a grant-in-aid as a

horizontal agreement that unreasonably restrained trade and violated the Sherman Act. The plaintiffs alleged that the grant-in-aid limitation suppressed competition in the market for talented student-athletes. The effect on competition was never tested through an evidentiary proceeding, as the parties settled before trial. However, before the *White* settlement, the court certified a class and denied an NCAA motion to dismiss, ruling that plaintiffs had adequately pled a relevant market and harm to competition. *White*, No. 06-999, Dkt. No. 72, slip op. at 3-4 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 20, 2006).

99. The short-term settlement in *White*, which has since expired, with its class members no longer attending NCAA schools, did not end the NCAA's anticompetitive behavior restricting player compensation.

The Restraints Have No Justifiable Pro-Competitive Effect

100. The cap on remuneration for the services of athletes in the Football Class and the Basketball Class have no pro-competitive purpose and cannot be justified on any claimed basis that it promotes "competitive balance." Indeed, competitive balance has never existed in FBS football or D-I men's basketball, and there is no credible competitive balance value in these sports to preserve.

101. Among FBS schools, a gaping schism exists between members of the Power Conferences and all others. For instance, no school outside of a Power Conference (not including Notre Dame) has ever played in the Bowl Championship Series ("BCS") championship game that has determined the college football national champion in the sixteen years of the BCS through the 2013-14 season.¹ And, only seven teams from outside of a Power Conference have ever appeared in any of the 72 BCS bowl games, with these non-Power Conference teams

¹ The BCS started in 1998 and will be replaced in the coming football season by the CFP.

securing just ten of 144 possible berths in those games. Going further back, fully 50 percent of the teams that finished among the top eight of the Associated Press's year-end football poll between 1950 and 2006 were from just 13 schools.

102. Even among the Power Conference FBS teams, competitive balance does not exist. For example, an SEC team won the BCS national championship *seven years in a row* until this past season, when an SEC team finally lost in the BCS championship game to a team from the ACC.

103. The Power Conference teams receive an overwhelming share of revenue as well. Upon information and belief, the new CFP media deal will deliver 73% of its **\$5.64 billion** value to Power Conference teams. Demand for Power Conference football is so much greater than the demand for non-Power Conference football that the Power Conference teams benefit from lucrative league-specific (and sometimes school-specific) television deals and their own proprietary cable networks that the other FBS schools cannot match.

104. Competitive balance is also completely lacking in D-I men's basketball. Since the NCAA Tournament expanded its field to 64 teams or more in 1985, only three non-Power Conference teams have won a national championship (not counting Louisville, which is joining the ACC in July of this year). Only seven teams from outside a Power Conference have even appeared in the championship game during this period, with non-Power Conference teams securing just ten of 58 possible berths. Nearly half of the teams in the national semifinals (the "Final Four") between 1950 and 2013—over more than 60 years covering more than 250 team appearances—have been from just 13 schools.

105. Parity also does not exist among the Power Conference schools. A few examples make this evident. In the Big 12, the University of Kansas has won the conference championship

ten straight years. In the ACC, Duke has been such a favorite that, during the ten years ending in the 2012-13 season, after 25 of its 31 losses away from its home court (an average of just three per season), opposing fans rushed the court in jubilation because an upset was so unlikely. In the Pac-12, either the University of Arizona or UCLA has won at least a share of the conference championship in 22 of the past 30 seasons.

106. Upon information and belief, the Power Conference teams receive an overwhelming share of basketball revenue as well. Because NCAA Tournament money is effectively allocated to conferences based on cumulative wins over a set number of years, and because the Power Conference teams are generally so much stronger than their counterparts from less successful conferences, the Power Conferences reap a greater share of NCAA Tournament proceeds. Additionally, as in football, demand for Power Conference basketball is so much greater than the demand for non-Power Conference basketball that the Power Conference teams benefit from lucrative league-specific (and sometimes school-specific) television deals and their own proprietary cable networks that the other D-I men's basketball schools cannot match.

107. The disparity between the Power Conferences and all other schools was further demonstrated at the end of 2013, when the Power Conferences proposed a new governance structure designed to increase their independence from the less economically successful schools and expand grants-in-aid by offering a modest \$2,000 annual stipend to athletes. These proposals just illustrate the tip of the compensation iceberg that players would and should receive, if not for the unlawful NCAA and Power Conference restrictions.

**IRREPARABLE INJURIES OF PLAINTIFFS
AND THE FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL CLASSES**

108. Upon information and belief, the Defendants intend to continue to impose their artificial caps on remuneration with anticompetitive effects in the relevant markets alleged

above. Absent such restrictions, the Plaintiffs and the class members would be able to seek remuneration from colleges beyond that currently permitted under NCAA rules. Plaintiffs and the class members will suffer severe and irreparable harm if Defendants continue to prevent Plaintiffs and the class members from offering their services to NCAA member institutions free of these restraints.

109. The injuries that the Plaintiffs and the class members are incurring and will continue to incur will not be fully compensable by monetary damages. This is particularly true due to the short length of NCAA careers and the difficulty in estimating and proving the amount of monetary damages suffered by Plaintiffs as a result of the Defendants' unlawful conduct.

110. Moreover, most class members will never have a career in the NFL or the NBA, and many will never receive a college degree. Most class members thus will not receive *any* economic benefit from their roles in generating billions of dollars for FBS football and D-I men's college basketball.

111. The threatened injuries to the Plaintiffs and the class members are irreparable, warranting the issuance of injunctive relief for the class.

Martin Jenkins

112. Plaintiff Martin Jenkins is a starting defensive back for the Clemson Tigers. Out of high school, Jenkins ranked as the 38th best cornerback in the nation according to ESPN.com and was named an All-Southeast Region pick by PrepStars. He was recruited by numerous FBS schools, including several from the Power Conferences, and he received multiple athletic scholarship offers for his football talents.

113. In 2010, Jenkins accepted a one-year athletic scholarship from Clemson, limited to the amount of a full grant-in-aid as required under the rules agreed upon by Defendants and

their member institutions. The athletic scholarship was renewed for each of the 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14 academic years. Currently, Jenkins is receiving an athletic scholarship from Clemson and has one remaining season of NCAA eligibility.

114. Upon information and belief, in 2012, Clemson's athletics department generated more than \$70 million in revenue, the vast majority of which came from football. But for the illegal restraints imposed by the Defendants under NCAA and conference rules, Jenkins would have received and would receive greater remuneration for his services as a football athlete.

Johnathan Moore

115. Plaintiff Johnathan (J.J.) Moore is a starting forward for the Rutgers Scarlet Knights. As a high school junior, Moore was a consensus All-Long Island selection, an All-State selection, and named *Long Island Newsday's* Player of the Year. The following year, Moore was selected to the All-New England Prep School Athletic Conference First Team and rated one of the top 50 players in the nation by Scout.com. He was recruited by numerous NCAA Division I schools, including several from the Power Conferences, and he received multiple athletic scholarship offers for his basketball talents.

116. In 2010, Moore accepted a one-year athletic scholarship from the University of Pittsburgh, limited to the amount of a full grant-in-aid as required under the rules agreed upon by Defendants and their member institutions. The athletic scholarship was renewed for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 academic years before he transferred to and accepted a one-year athletic scholarship from Rutgers in 2013. Currently, Moore is receiving an athletic scholarship from Rutgers and participating in his final season of NCAA eligibility.

117. Upon information and belief, in 2012, Rutgers's athletics department generated more than \$64 million in revenue. But for the illegal restraints imposed by the Defendants under

NCAA and conference rules, Moore would have received and would receive greater remuneration for his services as a men's basketball athlete.

Kevin Perry

118. Plaintiff Kevin Perry has been a starting tight end for the UTEP Miners. He also played two seasons with the UTEP men's basketball team. During high school, Perry was twice named to the All-District first-team for football, and received first-team All-State, All-District and All-State Tournament honors in basketball. He was recruited by numerous FBS schools, including several from the Power Conferences, and he received multiple athletic scholarship offers for both his football and basketball talents.

119. In 2009, Perry accepted a one-year athletic scholarship from UTEP, limited to the amount of a full grant-in-aid as required under the rules agreed upon by Defendants and their member institutions, despite providing both basketball and football services to the University. The athletic scholarship was renewed for each of the 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14 academic years. Perry graduated in December 2013 and is currently enrolled in academic courses at UTEP. He remains on athletic scholarship through the end of the academic year.

120. Upon information and belief in 2012, UTEP's athletics department generated more than \$27 million in revenue. But for illegal the restraints imposed by the Defendants under NCAA and conference rules, Perry would have received and would receive greater remuneration for his services as a football and men's basketball athlete.

William Tyndall

121. Plaintiff William Tyndall has been a starting offensive lineman for the Cal Bears. During high school, Tyndall was named to the All-State team and also received All-County and

All-League honors. He was recruited by numerous FBS schools, including several from the Power Conferences, and he received multiple athletic scholarship offers for his football talents.

122. In 2010, Tyndall accepted a one-year athletic scholarship from Cal, limited to the amount of a full grant-in-aid as required under the rules agreed upon by Defendants and their member institutions. The athletic scholarship was renewed for each of the 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14 academic years. Currently, Tyndall is completing his final semester of undergraduate studies at Cal and will graduate this spring. He remains on athletic scholarship through the end of the academic year.

123. Upon information and belief, in 2012, Cal's athletics department generated more than \$71 million in revenue, the vast majority of which came from football. But for illegal the restraints imposed by the Defendants under NCAA and conference rules, Tyndall would have received and would receive greater remuneration for his services as a football athlete.

CAUSE OF ACTION - COUNT I

Violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1

124. Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege each of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 123.

125. The restraints imposed by Defendants limiting the remuneration that the Defendants' member institutions may provide to members of the Football Class and members of the Basketball Class constitute an anticompetitive, horizontal agreement among competitors to fix artificially the remuneration for the services of the members of each class in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act. The restraints also constitute an unlawful group boycott of any institutions or players who would not comply with these unlawful price fixing arrangements.

126. The restraints operate as a perpetual horizontal price-fixing agreement, and group boycott, each of which is *per se* unlawful.

127. The restraints also constitute an unreasonable restraint of trade under the rule of reason, whether under a "quick look" or full-blown rule of reason analysis. Defendants have market power in the relevant markets for the services of top-tier college football and men's basketball players.

128. Defendants' price-fixing agreement and group boycott is a naked restraint of trade without any pro-competitive purpose or effect. Less restrictive rules can be implemented to achieve any purported procompetitive objectives of Defendants.

129. Each of the Defendants is a participant in this unlawful contract, combination, or conspiracy.

130. The Plaintiffs and class members have suffered and will continue to suffer antitrust injury by reason of the continuation of this unlawful contract, combination, or

conspiracy. NCAA and Power Conference rules have injured and will continue to injure Plaintiffs and the class members by depriving them of the ability to receive market value for their services as college football and men's basketball players in a free and open market.

131. Monetary damages are not adequate to compensate Plaintiffs or other class members for the irreparable harm they have and will continue to suffer, warranting injunctive relief.

132. The conduct of the Defendants has caused monetary injuries to Plaintiffs, also entitling them to individual damages.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for judgment with respect to their Complaint as follows:

1. Declaring that Defendants' rules and agreements that prohibit, cap or otherwise limit remuneration and benefits to players in the Football Class or the Basketball Class for their athletic services to member institutions violate Section 1 of the Sherman Act, and enjoining said rules as they apply to those class members;
2. Enjoining the Defendants from restraining any Defendant member institution from negotiating, offering, or providing remuneration to members of the Football Class and members of the Basketball Class in compensation for their services as athletes;
3. Awarding Plaintiffs treble the amount of individual damages they sustained as a result of the violations of the antitrust laws alleged herein;
4. Awarding Plaintiffs and the class they represent their costs and disbursements in this action, including reasonable attorneys' fees; and
5. Granting Plaintiffs and class members such other and further relief as may be appropriate.

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Dated: March 17, 2014

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DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury on all claims and issues so triable.

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CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO LOCAL CIVIL RULE 201.1

Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 201.1, the undersigned counsel for Plaintiffs hereby certifies that as a result of the nature of Plaintiffs' causes of action this action is not appropriate for compulsory arbitration.

s/ James S. Richter

James S. Richter

jrichter@winston.com

Dated: March 17, 2014

U.S. District Court
District of New Jersey [LIVE] (Trenton)
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 3:14-cv-01678-FLW-LHG

JENKINS et al v. NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION et al

Assigned to: Judge Freda L. Wolfson

Referred to: Magistrate Judge Lois H. Goodman

Cause: 15:1 Antitrust Litigation

Date Filed: 03/17/2014

Jury Demand: Plaintiff

Nature of Suit: 410 Anti-Trust

Jurisdiction: Federal Question

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(See above for address)

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

V.

Defendant**NATIONAL COLLEGIATE****ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION****Defendant****ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE****Defendant****BIG 12 CONFERENCE****Defendant****BIG TEN CONFERENCE****Defendant****PAC-12 CONFERENCE****Defendant****SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE**

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
03/17/2014	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE, BIG 12 CONFERENCE, BIG TEN CONFERENCE, NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC

		ASSOCIATION, PAC-12 CONFERENCE, SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE (Filing and Admin fee \$ 400 receipt number 5565107) with JURY DEMAND, filed by JOHNATHAN MOORE, WILLIAM TYNDALL, MARTIN JENKINS, KEVIN PERRY. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet)(mak) (Entered: 03/17/2014)
03/17/2014	<u>2</u>	SUMMONS ISSUED as to ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE, BIG 12 CONFERENCE, BIG TEN CONFERENCE, NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, PAC-12 CONFERENCE, SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE. Attached is the official court Summons, please fill out Defendant and Plaintiffs attorney information and serve. Issued By *Marlene Kalbach* (mak) (Entered: 03/17/2014)
03/18/2014	<u>3</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by MELISSA STEEDLE BOGAD on behalf of All Plaintiffs (BOGAD, MELISSA) (Entered: 03/18/2014)

PACER Service Center			
Transaction Receipt			
03/19/2014 21:24:40			
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