

EXHIBIT A

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

LORI COWEN, et al.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

LENNY & LARRY'S, INC.,

Defendant.

Case No. 1:17-CV-01530

Judge Robert W. Gettleman

Magistrate Young B. Kim

DECLARATION OF NICK SUCIU III
RELATING TO BARBAT MANSOUR & SUCIU, PLLC'S LODESTAR,
EXPENSES, AND WORK PERFORMED IN THIS CASE

I, Nick Suciú III, hereby declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection:

1. I am a founding partner at Barbat, Mansour & Suciú PLLC, Class Counsel in this action. I am an attorney at law licensed to practice in the State of Michigan, and admitted to this Court in this action.

2. I have personally reviewed all of my firm's time entries associated with this case, and have used billing judgment to ensure that duplicative and unnecessary time has been excluded and that only time reasonably devoted to the litigation has been included. My firm's time entries were regularly and contemporaneously recorded by me and the other timekeepers pursuant to firm policy and have been maintained in the computerized records of my firm.

3. Due to the commitment of time and capital investment required to litigate this action, my firm had to forego other work, including hourly non-contingent matters, and other class action matters.

4. My firm, Barbat, Mansour & Suciu PLLC, has significant experience in litigating class actions of similar size, scope, and complexity to the instant action. Further, I personally have extensive knowledge and expertise in the scientific and regulatory aspects of dietary supplements, including protein supplements. Recently my firm has been appointed Co-Class Counsel in two substantially similar cases, regarding protein supplements. *See Clay v. Cytosport, Inc.*, 2018 WL 4283032 (S.D. Cal. Sept. 7, 2018) and *Gregorio v. Premier Nutrition, Corp.*, 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9405 (S.D.N.Y. January 17, 2019). My firm has also been appointed as Co-Class Counsel by another court which found my firm to be “experienced in litigating class actions and other complex cases.” *See Price v. L’Oreal USA, Inc.*, 2018 WL 3869896, at *4 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 15, 2018) (Schofield, J.)

5. The time reflected below was time spent in the prosecution of this case by Barbat Mansour & Suciu, PLLC attorneys and staff. Barbat Mansour & Suciu, PLLC and the other Class Counsel were careful not to expend unnecessary hours and not to duplicate work done by others. The time submitted herein reflects only work done on behalf of the Settlement Class.

BARBAT MANSOUR & SUCIU’S LODESTAR

1. Below is a summary of the time spent by Barbat Mansour & Suciu’s attorneys and staff who were involved in this action, and the lodestar calculation based on the firm’s billing rates in effect on January 1, 2019. The summary was prepared at my request from contemporaneous daily time records regularly prepared and maintained by Barbat Mansour & Suciu’s, which are available at the request of the Court.

2. As of January 30, 2019, the total number of recorded hours spent on this litigation by Barbat Mansour & Suciu is 284.5 and the lodestar amount for attorney and support staff time, based on

the firm's current rates, is \$180,875.00. A breakdown of Barbat Mansour & Suciu's lodestar is reflected below:

Name	Position	Hours	Rate	Lodestar
Nick Suciu III	Partner	275.5	\$650	\$179,075.00
Lisa Suciu	Admin Assist/Para	9.0	\$200	\$1,800.00
TOTAL		284.5		\$180,875.00

3. The hourly rates shown above are charged for each individual in all of our cases. The hourly rates for the partners, associate attorneys, and professional staff are the usual and customary rates that Barbat Mansour & Suciu has charged in non-contingent matters and that have been accepted and approved in other recent class action litigation around the country.

4. As Barbat Mansour & Suciu's work on this case is ongoing, I anticipate that Barbat Mansour & Suciu's lodestar will increase from the present date to the date this case is finally resolved, in light of work that will be required in connection with finalizing the final approval papers, implementing the Settlement through to its conclusion, communicating with Settlement Class Members, coordinating efforts with Class Counsel, Defendant's Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator, and preparing for and participating in the Final Approval Hearing scheduled for March 19, 2019.

SUMMARY OF WORK PERFORMED BY BARBAT MANSOUR & SUCIU

5. In this matter, my firm made meaningful contributions to the case by conducting a thorough factual and legal investigation, engaging in discussions with other Class Counsel concerning strategy, assisting with legal and factual research, appearing in court, and drafting pleadings and oppositions to motions filed in this case.

6. Working in conjunction with other Class Counsel, Barbat Mansour & Suciu conducted the initial case investigation and research concerning factual and legal issues prior to filing the Complaint and throughout the case until Settlement; assisted in selecting and retaining Plaintiffs; corresponded with Defendant’s counsel on matters in this litigation; researched and drafted the memorandum in opposition to Defendant’s motion to dismiss and motion to strike class allegations; reviewed and analyzed documents produced by Defendant; engaged in extensive and lengthy settlement negotiations; prepared papers in connection with preliminary approval of settlement; conferred regarding Settlement Class Members’ inquiries about the proposed Settlement; and performed various Settlement-related tasks.

7. Barbat Mansour & Suciu will continue to represent the Settlement Class through final approval and completion of the claims administration process.

BARBAT MANSOUR & SUCIU’S EXPENSES

8. The firm has expended \$12,988.45 in unreimbursed expenses, which include such categories as expert costs, filing fees, online legal research, and subpoena fees to prosecute this action, as follows:

EXPENSE	AMOUNT
Telephone	
Travel / Meals	\$2,375.00
Postage	\$14.10
Filing Fees	
Service/Subpoena Fees	
Computer Research	

Delivery Services	
Internal Reproduction/Copies	
Advanced Costs to Litigation Fund (used to pay expert bills, etc.)	\$10,599.35
TOTAL	\$12,988.45

9. The expenses incurred pertaining to this case are reflected in the books and records of this firm. All the expenses incurred were reasonable and necessary to the prosecution of this case.

10. Class Counsel anticipate that there may be additional expenses in preparing for and attending the Final Approval Hearing.

DATED: February 5, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nick Suciu III
Nick Suciu III
BARBAT MANSOUR & SUCIU
PLLC
1644 Bracken Rd.
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
T: (313) 303-3472
nicksuciu@bmslawyers.com