## Granted as Submitted

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> SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA IN MARICOPA COUNTY

ARIZONA, ex rel. MARK STATE OF BRNOVICH, Attorney General,

Case No.: CV2021-014370

STIPULATED CONSENT JUDGMENT

Plaintiff,

v.

STUBHUB, INC.,

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Defendant.

The State of Arizona, ex rel. Mark Brnovich, the Attorney General (the "State"), filed a Complaint alleging violations of the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, A.R.S. §§ 44-1521 to -1534 (the "ACFA") against Defendant, StubHub, Inc. ("StubHub") (collectively, the "Parties"). The

Parties have agreed to the stipulations and terms of this Stipulated Consent Judgment

("Judgment") as the final adjudication of this civil action by the Court without the taking of proof

and without trial, without this Judgment constituting evidence of or an admission by StubHub,

regarding any issue of law or fact alleged in the Complaint, and without StubHub admitting any

27 liability, and with all parties having waived their right to appeal.

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This Judgment is entered in connection with the State's investigation of StubHub pursuant to the ACFA. This Judgment is entered into solely for the purposes of settlement and to avoid incurring costs associated with litigation.

#### **PARTIES**

- 1. The State is authorized to enforce the ACFA as alleged in the Complaint.
- 2. StubHub is a Delaware corporation with its principal office or place of business located at 199 Fremont Street, San Francisco, California 94105.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

- 3. For purposes of this Judgment, the following definitions apply:
  - a. "Buyer" means any individual who purchased one or more event tickets on StubHub's ticket marketplace: (1) on or before March 25, 2020 and (2) resided in Arizona at the time of purchase or purchased a ticket for an event in Arizona.
  - b. "Clear and Conspicuous" means that a disclosure is made in such size (i.e., shall be of at least equal prominence to the representation triggering the disclosure), color, contrast, location, duration, and/or audibility that it is difficult to miss (i.e., easily noticeable, readable, understandable, and/or capable of being heard). A disclosure may not contradict or be inconsistent with any other information with which it is presented. If a disclosure modifies, explains or clarifies other information with which it is presented, then the disclosure must be presented in proximity to the information it modifies, explains, or clarifies, in a manner that is readily noticeable, readable, and understandable, and not obscured in any manner. In addition:
    - The disclosure must be made through the same means, whether audio, visual, or both, through which the representation triggering the disclosure is made;
    - ii. An audio disclosure shall be delivered in a volume and cadence sufficient for a consumer to hear and comprehend it;

- iii. A visual statement or disclosure by its size, contrast, location, the length of time it appears, and other characteristics, must stand out so that it is easily noticed; shall remain on the screen for a duration sufficient for a consumer to read and comprehend it; and
- iv. In a disclosure, the disclosure shall appear in a type-size font, color, appearance, and location sufficient for a consumer to read and comprehend it.
- c. "Eligible Buyer" means any Buyer who: (1) purchased a ticket to a cancelled event prior to StubHub's refund policy change on March 25, 2020; (2) has not already received a full cash refund from StubHub or through a credit card chargeback; (3) was defaulted to a credit refund; and (4) has not used credit equal to 100% of their original order amount.
- d. "Express Informed Consent" means an affirmative act or statement giving unambiguous assent following a Clear and Conspicuous disclosure of material facts.
- e. "Product or service" means any good or service, including the operation of a ticket marketplace.

#### **BACKGROUND**

4. StubHub operates an online marketplace for secondary tickets to live events. Tickets purchased on StubHub's marketplace are backed by its refund policy for cancelled events, which prior to March 25, 2020 provided consumers a cash refund for tickets purchased to cancelled events. In early March 2020, COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic and there was wide-spread cancellation of live in-person events, including events for which Arizona consumers had purchased tickets on StubHub's marketplace. On or about March 12, 2020, StubHub notified consumers that they could choose to receive a credit in lieu of a cash refund, but that cash refunds remained the default. On or about March 25, 2020, StubHub made the decision to change its refund policy for cancelled events and no longer provided cash refunds to all customers. Instead, consumers were defaulted to a credit refund. The State received numerous

complaints from consumers about StubHub's policy change. On November 10, 2020, the State commenced a formal investigation against StubHub. On December 7, 2020, the State sent StubHub a civil investigative demand, requesting information and documents regarding its refund policy and its decision to change the same. On or about May 3, 2021, StubHub announced that it would provide Eligible Buyers a cash refund, with the ability to elect an account credit in lieu of a refund ("StubHub Refund Program"). StubHub has provided nearly \$2 million dollars in cash refunds to Arizona's Eligible Buyers and \$253,252.24 worth of credit in lieu of refunds.

- 5. StubHub represents and warrants to the State that it is providing restitution to Eligible Buyers consistent with the StubHub Refund Program and Paragraph 9 of this Judgment.
- 6. StubHub contends that it was unable to refund all Eligible Buyers prior to May 3, 2021 due to the unforeseen impact that the COVID-19 pandemic had on its business and the live in-person event industry, including a near complete loss of revenue, an inability to recoup cash refunds from ticket sellers, and an order from the United Kingdom's Competition and Markets Authority preventing StubHub from merging or even communicating about StubHub's business with its new parent company, viagogo, which purchased StubHub in February 2020.
- 7. The Parties agree to and do not contest the entry of this Judgment and further agree that this Court has jurisdiction over this matter and waive all rights to appeal or otherwise challenge or contest the validity of this Judgment.
- 8. At all times relevant to this matter StubHub engaged in commerce affecting consumers in Arizona. Therefore, StubHub is subject to the ACFA.

#### **INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

NOW, THEREFORE, THE RELIEF IN PARAGRAPHS 9 THROUGH 15 IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

## **Arizona Refund Program**

9. Within 60 days of StubHub verifying that an event for which an Eligible Buyer purchased tickets prior to March 25, 2020, has been cancelled, or that an Eligible Buyer's tickets will not be honored because of capacity restrictions, StubHub shall initiate payment of a cash refund to the Eligible Buyer for the full amount of the ticket order, including any taxes and fees

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(less any of the amount already redeemed from the credit), unless, prior to the initiation of the payment of the cash refund, an Eligible Buyer informs StubHub that the Eligible Buyer prefers a credit. Notwithstanding the foregoing, StubHub shall initiate payment of a cash refund within 15 days of an express request for a cash refund made by an Eligible Buyer through StubHub's standard customer service channels.

- 10. No later than 90 days after the entry of this Judgment, StubHub must submit to the State a detailed report regarding the StubHub Refund Program. The report shall include, at a minimum, the following information for each Eligible Buyer included in the StubHub Refund Program:
  - a. the name, address, email address, and phone number of each Eligible Buyer who purchased the ticket(s);
  - b. the name of the event for which the ticket(s) was/were purchased;
  - c. the date of the event for which the ticket(s) was/were purchased;
  - d. the number of tickets purchased by the Eligible Buyer;
  - e. the purchase price of the ticket(s);
  - f. the amount of any refund paid to the consumer;
  - g. the amount of any credit the consumer elected to receive; and
  - h. the date that any refund or credit was issued.
- 11. StubHub shall notify the State at least 30 days prior to any change in the corporation that may affect compliance obligations arising under this Judgment, including, but not limited to: a dissolution, assignment, sale, merger, or other action that would result in the emergence of a successor corporation; the creation or dissolution of a subsidiary, parent, or affiliate that engages in any acts or practices subject to this Judgment; the proposed filing of a bankruptcy petition; or a change in the corporate name or address.
- 12. One year after the date of the entry of this Judgment, StubHub must submit a compliance report, sworn under penalty of perjury, in which StubHub must:
  - Identify the primary physical, postal, and email address and telephone number, as designated points of contact, which the State may use to communicate with StubHub;

- b. Identify all of the StubHub's businesses by all of their names, telephone numbers, and physical, postal, email, and Internet addresses;
- c. Describe the activities of each business, including the products and services offered, the means of advertising, marketing, and sales, and refund or credit policies; and,
- d. Describe in detail whether and how StubHub is in compliance with each provision of this Judgment, including a discussion of all of the changes StubHub has made to comply with the Judgment.

## **Compliance with the ACFA**

- 13. StubHub shall not make any misrepresentation, expressed or implied, about any material aspect of the nature or terms of any refund, cancellation, exchange, or credit policy, including, but not limited to, the ability of a consumer to obtain a full or partial refund, or the circumstances in which a full or partial refund will be granted to the consumer.
- 14. StubHub shall honor its refund, cancellation, exchange, credit, or repurchase policy, express or implied, in effect at the time of each sale, unless such refund policy has been subsequently modified by agreement between StubHub and the consumer with the consumer's Express Informed Consent.
- 15. StubHub shall comply with the ACFA in connection with the advertising, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of tickets for live events and shall not make misrepresentations regarding its cancellation or refund policies, including the total costs; any material restrictions, limitations, or conditions; or any other material aspect of the policies.

#### **RELEASE**

16. The State hereby releases StubHub and its principals in their capacities as officers, directors, or employees of StubHub from any and all civil claims that could be asserted by the State under the ACFA, and rules adopted pursuant to the ACFA prior to the effective date of this Judgment that relate to, or are based on StubHub's failure to refund Eligible Buyers who purchased tickets to live events using StubHub's marketplace prior to March 25, 2020, whose events were subsequently cancelled ("Released Claims"). Nothing contained in this paragraph

shall be construed to limit the ability of the State to enforce the obligations that StubHub, its officers, subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, representatives, employees, successors, and assigns have under this Judgment, including any claim for costs, attorneys' fees, and any other relief the State is entitled to seek pursuant to the ACFA as part of an action brought to enforce this Judgment.

- 17. The State specifically reserves and excludes the following forms of ACFA liability from the Released Claims:
  - a. Any violation of the ACFA in connection with the StubHub Refund Program; and,
  - b. A Buyer's inability to use credits provided pursuant to the StubHub Refund Program due to event cancellations and capacity restrictions.
- 18. Notwithstanding any term of this Judgment, any and all of the following forms of liability are specifically reserved and excluded from the Released Claims:
  - a. Any criminal liability that StubHub has or may have in the State of Arizona;
  - b. Any civil or administrative liability that StubHub has or may have to the State of Arizona under any statute, regulation or rule not expressly covered by the release in the preceding paragraph 16, including but not limited to, any and all of the following claims:
    - i. State or federal antitrust violations;
    - ii. State or federal securities violations; and
    - iii. State or federal tax claims.
- 19. This release shall be binding only upon StubHub and does not extend to, release, cover, or in any way apply to any entities on whose behalf StubHub acted as an agent or business associate or on whose behalf it engaged in debt collection activities.

## PAYMENT TO STATE

20. Judgment is hereby rendered against StubHub and in favor of the State in the total amount of three hundred thirty-four thousand five hundred and fifty dollars (\$334,550). Any money received by the State pursuant to this paragraph may be used for purposes that may include, but are not limited to, attorneys' fees, and other costs of investigation and litigation, or be placed in, or applied to, any consumer protection law enforcement fund, including future

consumer protection enforcement, consumer education, litigation or local consumer aid fund or revolving fund, used to defray the costs of the inquiry leading hereto, or for other uses permitted by state law, at the sole discretion of the State.

- 21. Collection of the monetary amount described in paragraph 20 above is suspended subject to the provisions noted below:
  - a. The State's agreement to suspend collection of this Judgment is premised on the truth and accuracy of the information StubHub provided.
  - b. Suspension of Judgment will be lifted if, upon motion filed by the State on or before 18 months from the date of the entry of this Judgment, this Court finds that StubHub has failed to comply with the requirements of paragraphs 9 through 15.
  - c. If the suspension is lifted, the Judgment amount shall become immediately due and payable to the State.
- 22. Unless a motion is filed by the State pursuant to paragraph 21(b) of this Judgment within 18 months after the date of the entry of this Judgment, the suspended payment shall be deemed satisfied and permanently forgiven.

#### **NOTICES**

23. Unless otherwise provided, any notices or documents required to be sent to the Parties pursuant to this Judgment (including requests related to the Cooperation requirements of paragraphs 10 through 12) shall be sent to the following address via overnight courier and electronic mail (unless after the Effective Date, a different address is communicated in writing by the party requesting a change of designee or address):

#### a. For the State:

Syreeta Tyrell, Assistant Attorney General Consumer Protection and Advocacy Section, Civil Litigation Unit 2005 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85004

#### b. For StubHub:

Marty Linne, General Counsel StubHub, Inc.

199 Fremont Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, CA 94105 mlinne@stubhub.com

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 24. The terms of this Judgment are not intended to be construed as an admission or concession or evidence of liability or wrongdoing on the part of StubHub.
- 25. The terms of this Judgment shall not be construed as an admission or concession or any other evidence that the ACFA applies to StubHub or StubHub's business activities.
- 26. Acceptance and entry of this Judgment is not an approval by the State of any of StubHub's business practices and StubHub is enjoined from making any representations regarding approval.
- 27. StubHub will not participate in any activity to form a separate entity for the purpose of engaging in acts or practices prohibited by this Judgment or for any other purpose that would circumvent this Judgment.
- 28. Subject to the release included herein, nothing in this Judgment shall be construed to limit the authority of the State to protect the interests of the State of Arizona or its citizens, or to enforce any laws, regulations, or rules against StubHub.
- 29. Subject to the release recited herein, this Judgment does not affect any private right of action that any consumer, person, entity, or federal, state, or local governmental entity may have against StubHub.
- 30. Nothing in this Judgment waives or affects any claims of sovereign immunity by the State.
- 31. StubHub expressly waives any rights, remedies, appeals, or other interests related to a jury trial or any related or derivative rights under the Arizona or United States Constitutions or other laws as to this Judgment.
- 32. If any provision of this Judgment shall be held unenforceable, the Judgment shall be construed as if such provision did not exist.

- 33. This Judgment may be executed in counterparts, that, together, will constitute one whole document.
- 34. This Judgment is being entered along with judgments in the following states: Arkansas, Colorado, Indiana, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Ohio, Virginia, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia, to resolve multiple state investigations into StubHub's refund practices. Within 30 days of this Judgment's entry, StubHub shall provide a copy of it, or a judgment entered into with one of the other states, provided that state's judgment does not contain any terms that are materially different from this Judgment, to each of its officers and directors, owners, applicable agents, and any other employees with managerial responsibilities or who otherwise participate in StubHub's cancellation or refund policy or advertising decisions. StubHub shall, within 45 days of the entry of this Judgment, provide a certification under oath to the State that affirms compliance with this paragraph.
- 35. All costs associated with this action and Judgment shall be borne by the party incurring same.
- 36. This Judgment resolves all outstanding claims expressly identified in the Complaint as to StubHub. As no further matters remain pending, this is a final judgment entered pursuant to Ariz. R. Civ. P. 54(c).

DATED this day of September, 2021.

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

1	StubHub, Inc.	
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3	By: Marl & X	
4	Marty Linne, General Counsel	
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7	APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:	
8	MARK BRNOVICH	Counsel for Defendant, StubHub, Inc.
9	Attorney General	
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12	By:	1
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	Syreeta Tyrell	Jonathan A. Direnfeld
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# eSignature Page 1 of 1

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**Granted as Submitted** 



#### **ENDORSEMENT PAGE**

CASE NUMBER: CV2021-014370 SIGNATURE DATE: 9/20/2021

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SYREETA AMESHA TYRELL

STUBHUB INC 199 FREEMONT ST FL 4 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105